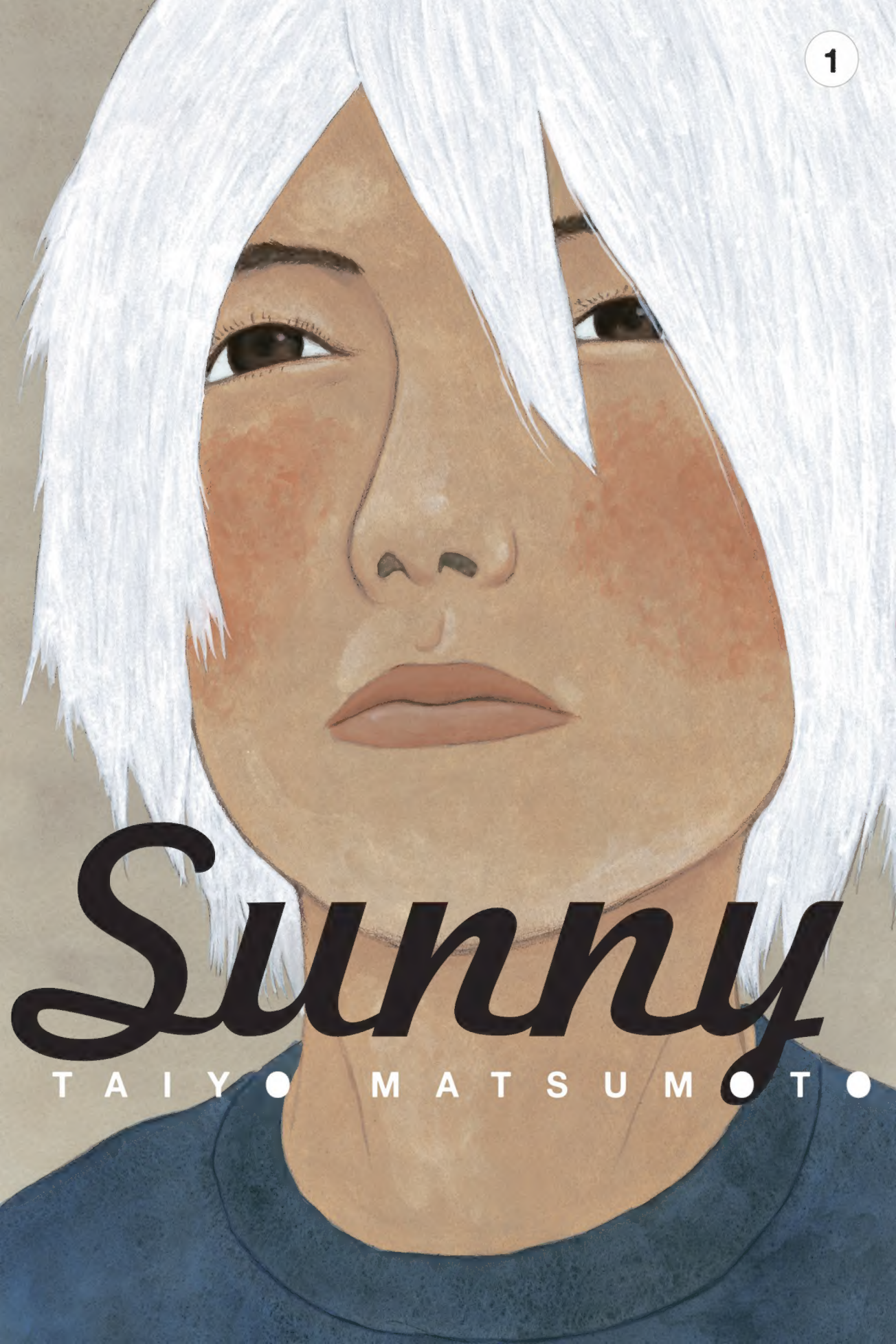
1
Sunny
TAIYŌ MATSUMOTO

W
3 - B
PANTHER
27

1

Sun

TAIYO MATSUMOTO

CHAPTER 6

"Whaddya think's for dinner tonight?"

"Miss Mitsuko said fritters."

184

CHAPTER 5

"Whaddya do when you feel like cryin' at night?"

"Me, I sing."

150

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"A spy and a racecar driver and a boxing champion."

116

CHAPTER 3

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"'Cause almost nothin' can beat a girl's tears."

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"'Cause he doesn't cut 'em."

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CHAPTER 1

"Where's Yokohama?"

"I dunno, somewhere 'round Tokyo?"

8

CONTENTS

Sunny

1

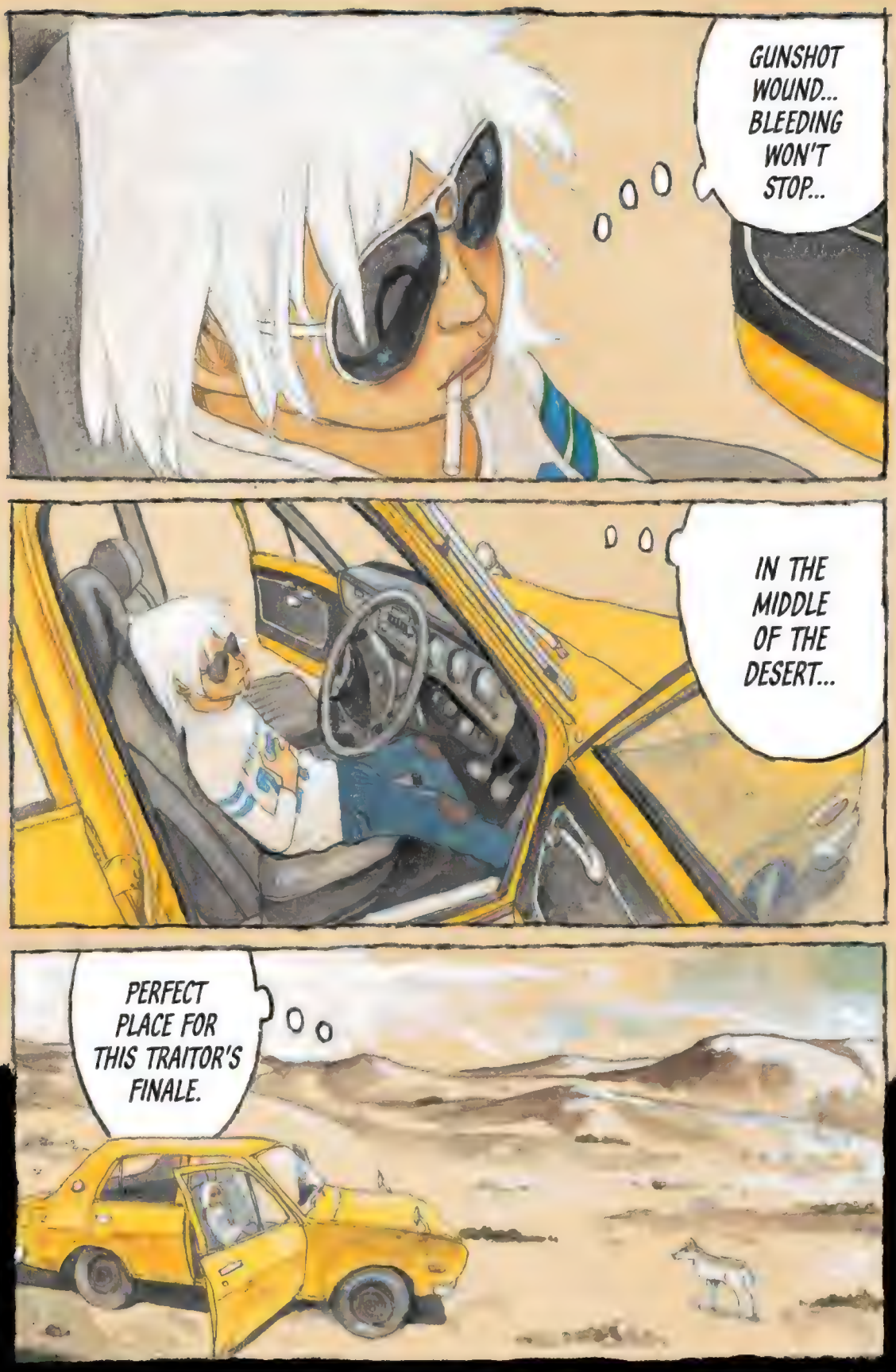
CHAPTER 1

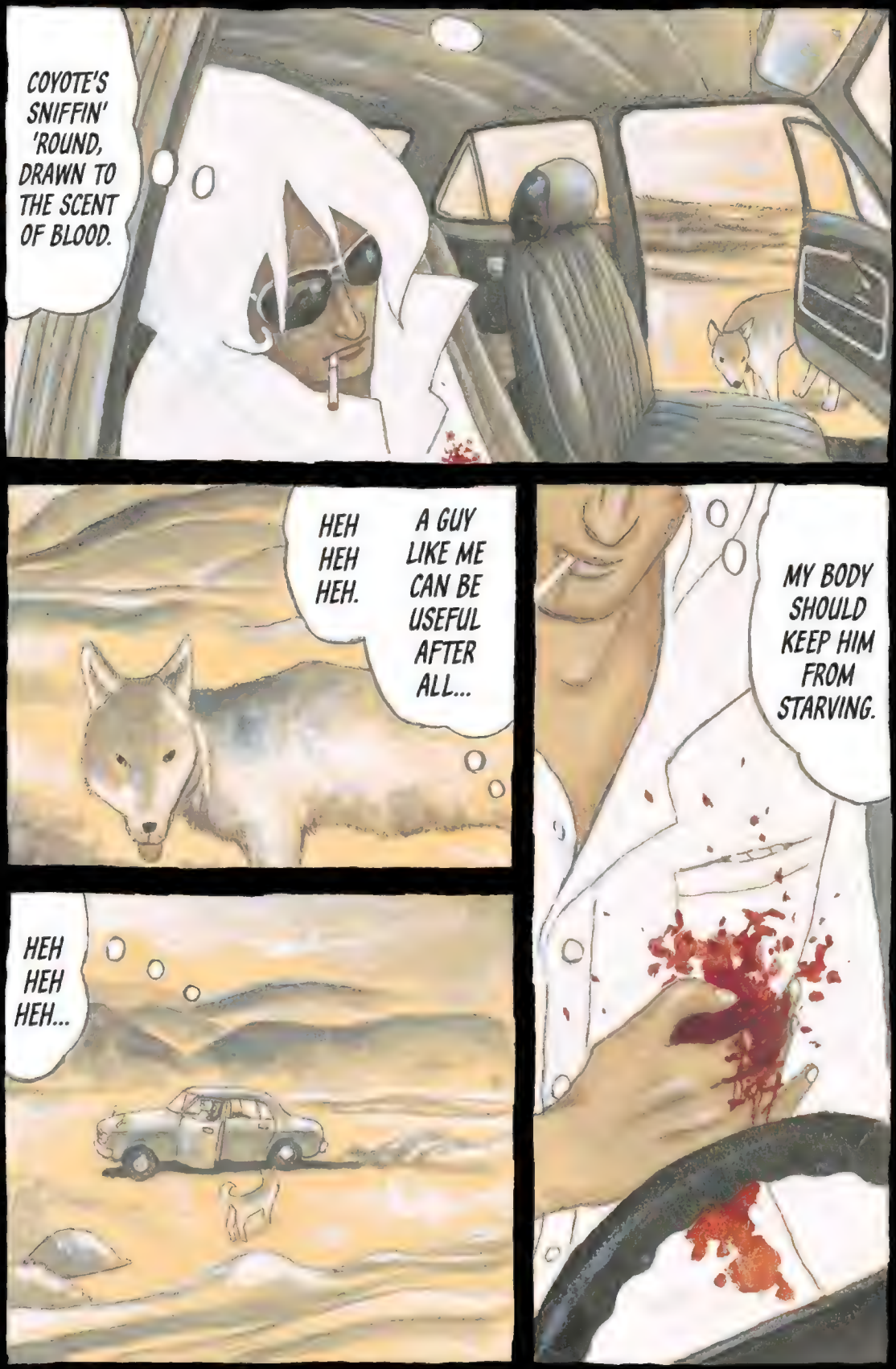
"Where's Yokohama?"

"I dunno, somewhere 'round Tokyo?"

HOOEY HOOEY HOOO
HOOEY HOOO
TAKE IT OUT-SIDE.
QUIET DOWN, JUNSUKE.
HOO HOOO HOOEY HOOO
HOOO HOOEY HOOO
MAYBE OUT IN THE SUNNY AGAIN?
I DUNNO.
HEY MAKIO, WHERE'S HARUO?
HOOEY HOOO

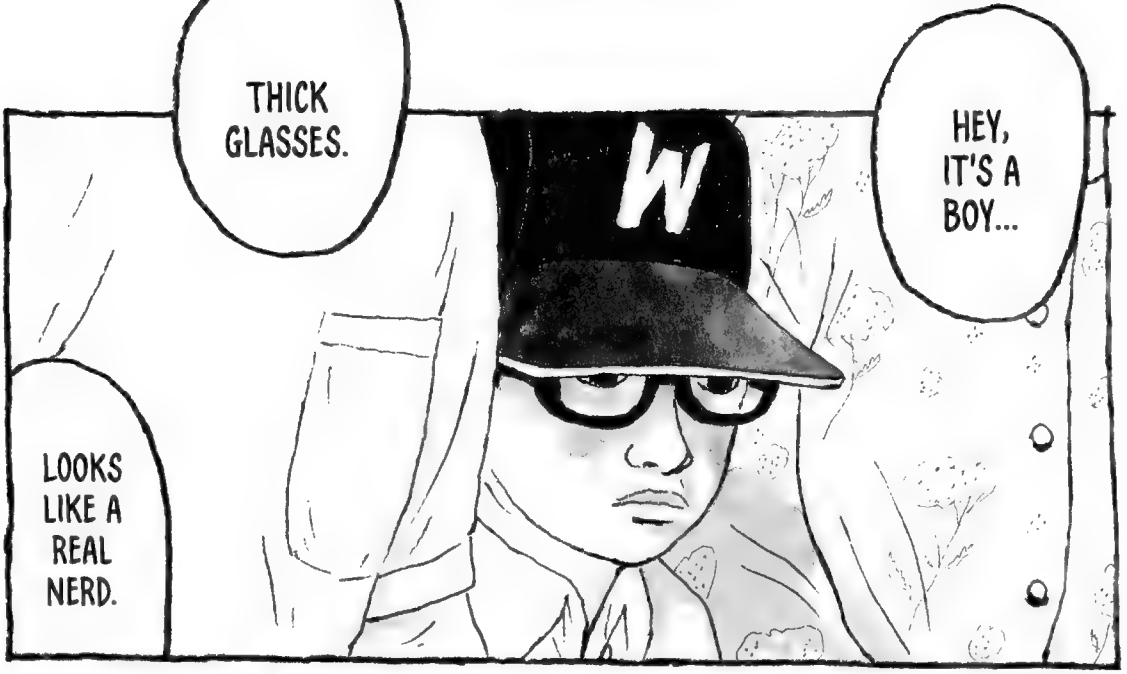
*Sign: Star Kids Home


GUNSHOT WOUND... BLEEDING WON'T STOP...
IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT...
PERFECT PLACE FOR THIS TRAITOR'S FINALE.


COYOTE'S SNIFFIN' 'ROUND, DRAWN TO THE SCENT OF BLOOD.
HEH HEH HEH.
A GUY LIKE ME CAN BE USEFUL AFTER ALL...
MY BODY SHOULD KEEP HIM FROM STARVING.
HEH HEH HEH...

HARU-
OOOO!
WANNA GO SEE?
NEW KID COMIN' TODAY.
HE HERE AL-READY?
RRR
HEY, HARUO!!
YEAH, I'M COMIN'.
NOT YET, BUT HE'S COMIN' SOON.

*Sign: Star Kids Home



*Timid spectacled protagonist of "Doraemon"

NOT "THE KID." HIS NAME'S "SEI."
THE KID'S FROM YOKOHAMA, RIGHT?
I WANNA!
NO WAY!
AND *YOU'RE* GOING TO SHOW HIM AROUND THE PLACE.
GAK
UNF
I'LL BE SURE TO INTRO-DUCE YOU LATER.
I'LL SHOW 'IM WHERE ALL THE BIG BEETLES ARE THIS SUMMER.
YEAH!
WELL, ALL RIGHT, JUNSUKE WILL.
CHIRRP
GAA

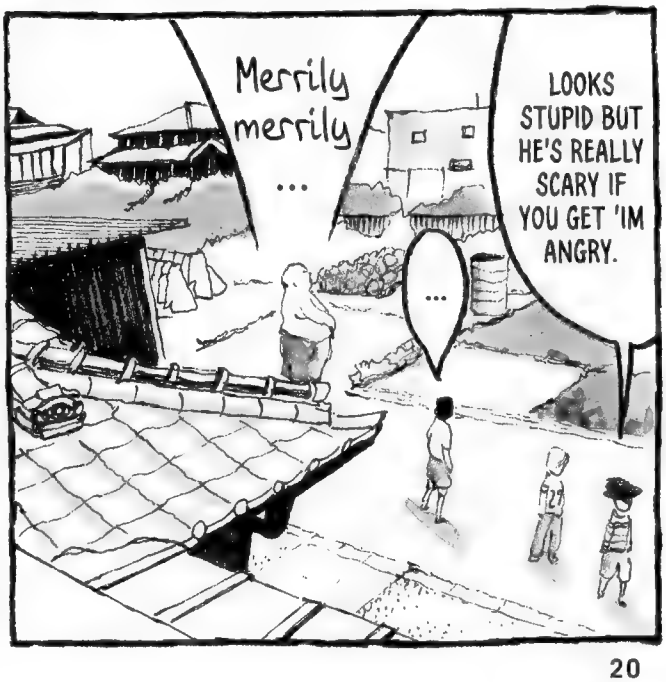
PLEASE REFRAIN FROM CALLING AT FIRST ...
IF ANYTHING COMES UP, WE'LL BE SURE TO LET YOU KNOW...
KURI-MARU'S ...
A DUMMY
...
HA HA HA HA
NOW, REGARDING HIS SCHOOL TRANSFER FORMS...
HUFF HUFF
HA HA HA HA

IN THE MORNING YA GOTTA TELL MISS MITSUKO WHATCHA WANNA WATCH.
SIGH
yip
ONLY TWO HOURS OF TV A WEEK.
HOUSE-MASTER'S REALLY OLD, ALMOST NEVER GETS OUTTA BED.
HE'S PROB'LY ALMOST DEAD. HAHA!
DON'T FORGET TO CLEAN UP HIS POOP!
WE TAKE TURNS WALKING KURIMARU, TWICE A DAY.
ARF
ARF

♪
Row row row your boat
Gently down the stream

THAT'S TARO.
Merrily merrily ...

Life is but a dream
♪


Merrily merrily ...
...
LOOKS STUPID BUT HE'S REALLY SCARY IF YOU GET 'IM ANGRY.

HMPH.
KA-CHUNK
A SUNNY 1200.
TELEPATHY, YA MOVE IT WITH TELEPATHY!
DOES IT RUN?
HEY, YOU LIKE CARS?
SNIFF
SNIFF

HORNY KENJI ALWAYS HIDES HIS PORNO MAGS IN HERE.
KZCT
TELE-PATHY ?
KA-CHUNK
WHOAA!
HEE HEE.
NO GROWN-UPS ALLOWED!
THIS PLACE IS OUR CLUB-HOUSE!
ANYWHERE YA WANT.
JUS' CLOSE YOUR EYES AND THINK WHERE YA WANNA GO.

GWAAA
Row row row your boat...
W
HEE HEE HEE.
SLURRRP.

I'M GETTING OUT OF THIS PLACE SOON...
GOING HOME.
MY MOM SAID SHE'D COME GET ME BEFORE SUM-MER.
HEH HEH.
GOINK
Pink
TAKE US TO YOKOHAMA TOO!
WOW, YOU GET TO LEAVE SO SOON?
NEVER GONNA HAPPEN...

NO WAY YOU'RE GOIN' HOME.
YOU GOT *DUMPED.*

TAXI
grunklegrunk
grunklegrunk
W
WORM
grunklegrunk

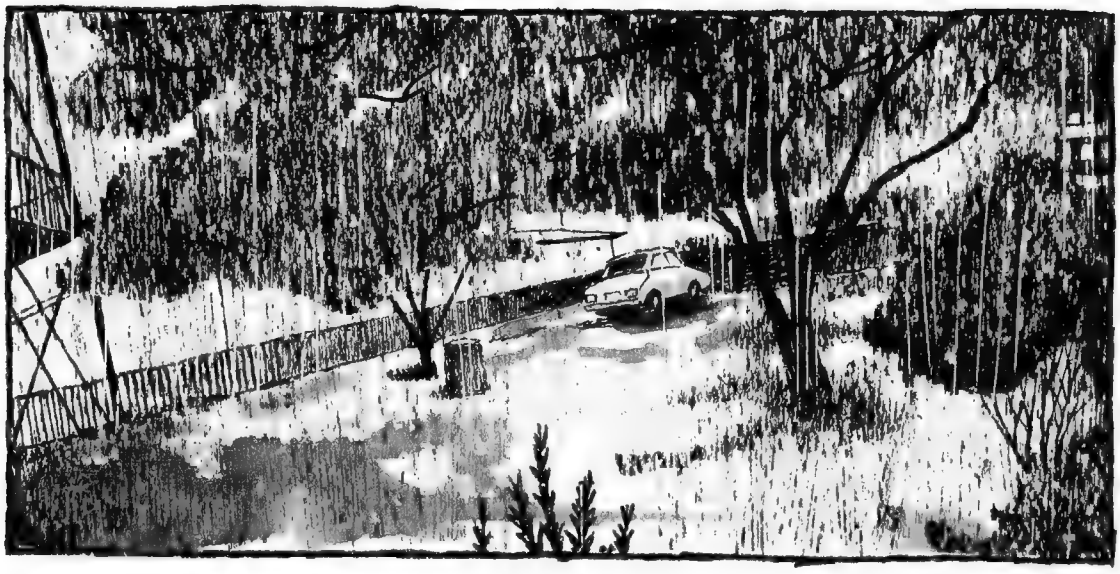
GRUNKLE GRUNK
WOW
BUMP
BUMP

HA
HA
HA
HA
GOWIL-LAA...
HEYYY, COULD YA TURN IT DOWN A BIT?
YOU!
WHO YOU CALLIN' GORILLA?
HEY, THE CAPTAIN'S MISSING AGAIN!
IT'S A GORILLA!
HA
HA
HA
HA
HURRY UP AND FINISH.
IT'S ME, YOU IDIOT!
YOU STILL EATING, SEI?

JUNSUKE, SHUT UP, YA IDIOT!
GOAT GOAT GOAT GOAT GOAT GOAT TURTLLLE!
Plonk Plink
HORSE HORSE HORSE HORSE HORSE HORSE COWWWW!
WELL THEN, WHY DON'TCHA HELP HIM GET OUT.
MISS MITSUKO, TARO GOT STUCK IN THE TUB AGAIN!
UHHHHH.
SEI, YOU'LL HAVE TO LEARN TO EAT A BIT FASTER.
I TOLD YOU, I'M NOT A GORILLA!
QUIET DOWN, JUNSUKE!
MUNCH MUNCH
HA HA HA
RIBBIT
RIBBIT

SSHH
-IPPI

EEW, SMELLS LIKE CIGA-RETTES.
I'M SOAKED.



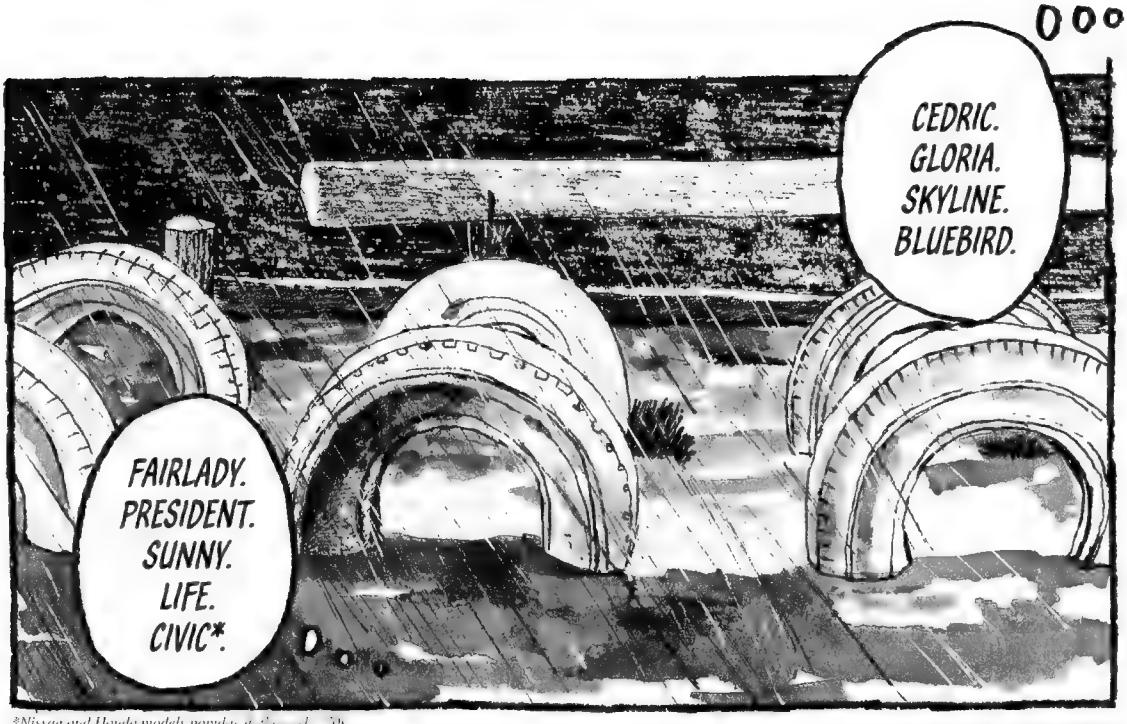
REALLY POURING ...
RUMBLE
ゴロゴロゴロ...
I CAN SMELL CIGA-RETTES ON YOU AGAIN.
HM?
IN THE SUNNY.
SEEN HARUO ANYWHERE?
HEY THERE, KENJI...
GIMME A BREAK.
ゴーロゴロ

HEE HEE.
HEH HEH.

VROOM.
GRAK!
VRRR.
PAST THE BIG BOULEVARD AT THE STATION, THEN LEFT AT THE SECOND CROSSWALK.

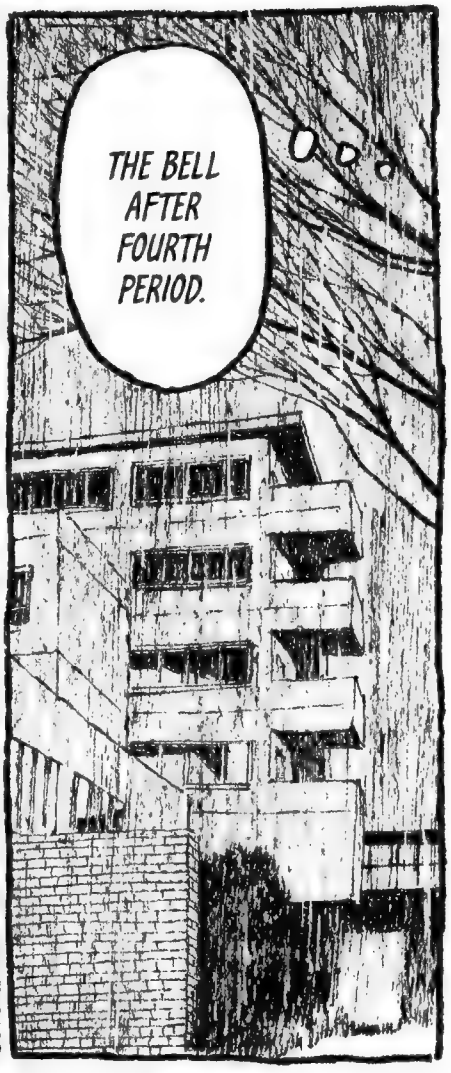
OYAMA CREDIT UNION. ARITA STONE-WORKS. NEW KURODA HALL. MARUKUMA MEATS.
MIYATA BOWLING. HIRA ABACUS SCHOOL. MAIYAMA DENTIST'S. SUZUKI SHOP. MORI PHOTOGRAPHY.
KEYAKI. CHESTNUT. TONERIKO. GINKGO. MAPLE CHERRY. WILLOW.

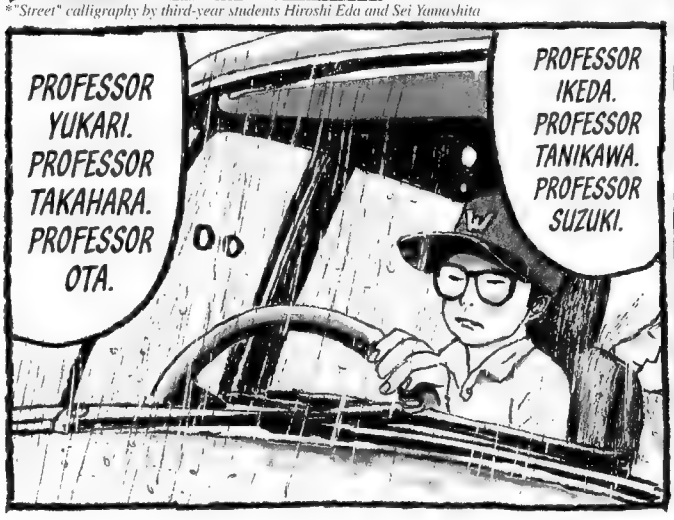
THE SMELL OF KOGA'S DAD'S BARBER SHOP.
THE SMELL OF THE RESTAU-RANT WHERE I ALWAYS GO WITH GRANDPA.
THEN THE AUTO-REPAIR SHOP WHERE DAD WORKS.
OIL AND BURNT METAL, DAD'S SMELL.



*Nissan and Honda models popular [illegible]

*"Street" calligraphy by third-year students Hiroshi Eda and Sei Yamashita

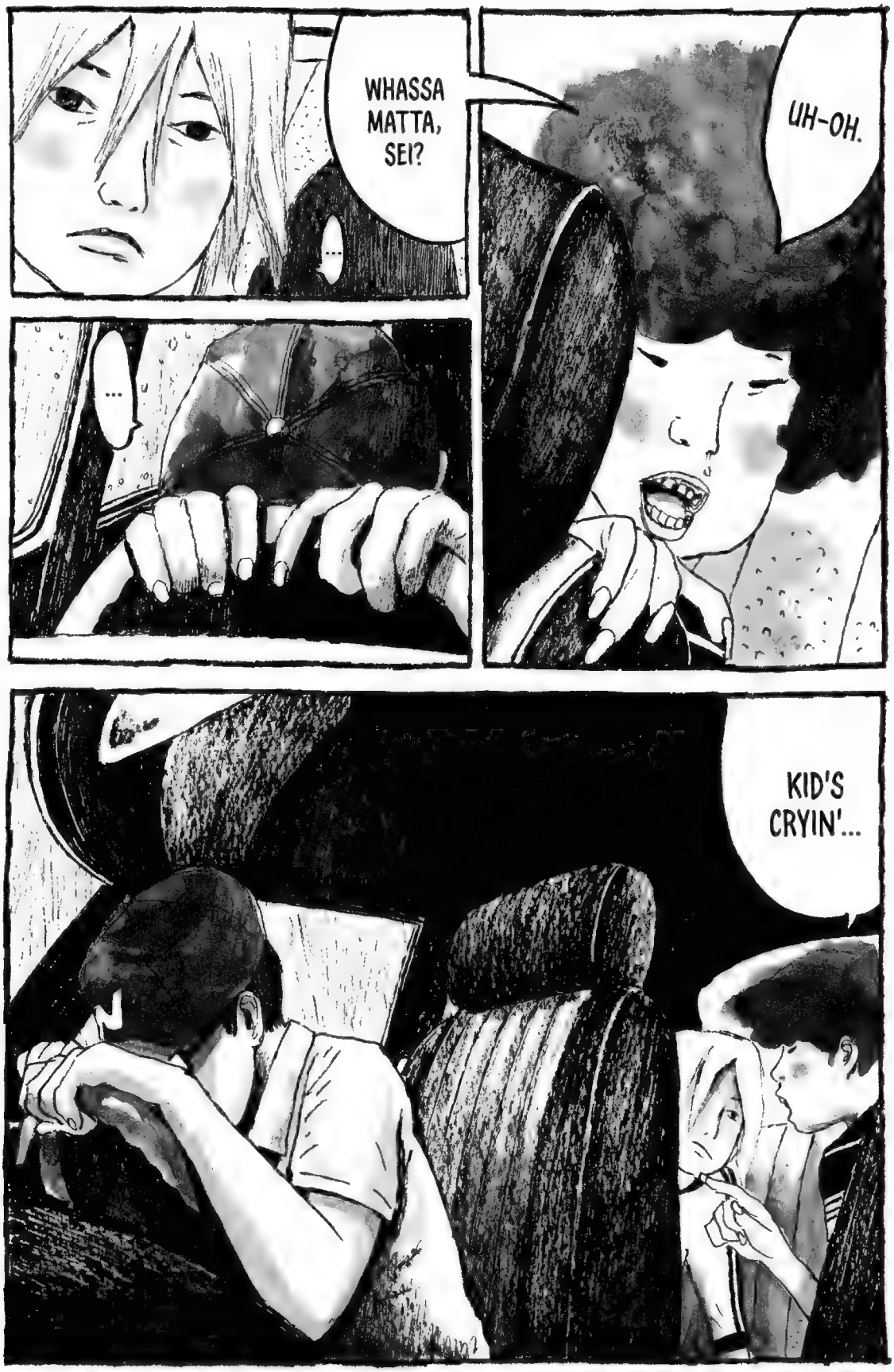




KEIKO.
MARIKO.
KINOSHITA.
ENDO.
HARADA.
ASANO.
IIDA.
QUIT IT! ALL OF YOU!
QUIET DOWN, I CAN'T STUDY...
OWWW
YAY!
TA-DAH!
HEE HEE HEE.
HEH HEH.
HEE HEE HEE.

TAKE A LEFT AT SASAGUCHI INTERSECTION, UP THE HILL, AND THEN...
...ALMOST HOME.
MOM, I'M HOME!
MOM, I'M HOME!

I'M HOME!


WHASSA MATTA, SEI?
...
UH-OH.
...
KID'S CRYIN'...

MAYBE HE GOT A TUMMY-ACHE...
GET INSIDE, TARO, YOU'LL CATCH A COLD!
UHHHHH
星の子学園

*Letters on wall: S-T U D Y

SCREECH
SK-DDDDD

PHEW.

C'MON, JUST GIMME ONE, PLEASE!
SEE, HE DID TAKE IT!
JUN-SUKE, GIVE IT BACK.

CLUNK
CLUNK
DRIVING'S DIFFERENT, AIN'T IT!
YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ME!
VROOOOM
HA HA HA HA HA
I SAID THAT'S ENOUGH.
NO WAY.
PLEEEZ.
SUN-NY.
WUZ IN DA ...
HE ...
HEY, ANY-ONE SEEN HARUO?

KEEP DOZING, TURTLES.
THAT LITTLE TURD.
TIME TO BREAK AWAY FROM THEM.
OKAY, SUNNY, LET'S GO.
TAKE ME...
Life is but a dream...
I NEED YOU NOW.
...TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.
HARUO, YOU TOOK MY SHADES AGAIN!

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
Row row row your boat Gently down the stream...
GIVE 'EM BACK!

CHAPTER 2

"Why're Dracula's fingernails so long?"

"'Cause he doesn't cut 'em."

星の子学
I DON'T LIKE MORNINGS MUCH.

TAKE CARE NOW.
SEE YA LATER.

SEE YA LATER, SIR!

drip

PUFF PUFF
CLOUDY.
HOUSE-MASTER'S EYES ARE ALL MILKY.
STILL WARM!
FRIDAYS WE PACK LUNCH FOR SCHOOL.
MAKE SURE YOU GET THE RIGHT ONE, KIDS.
GROWNUPS NEVER GIVE A STRAIGHT ANSWER.
YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE...
MISS MITSUKO, WHAT'S FOR LUNCH TODAY?

EVERY MORNING HARUO SMELLS HIS NIVEA CREAM.
...
THE NEW KID, SEI, TAKES THREE MILLION YEARS GETTING READY.
KURIMARU'S LUCKY HE DOESN'T HAVE SCHOOL.
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF

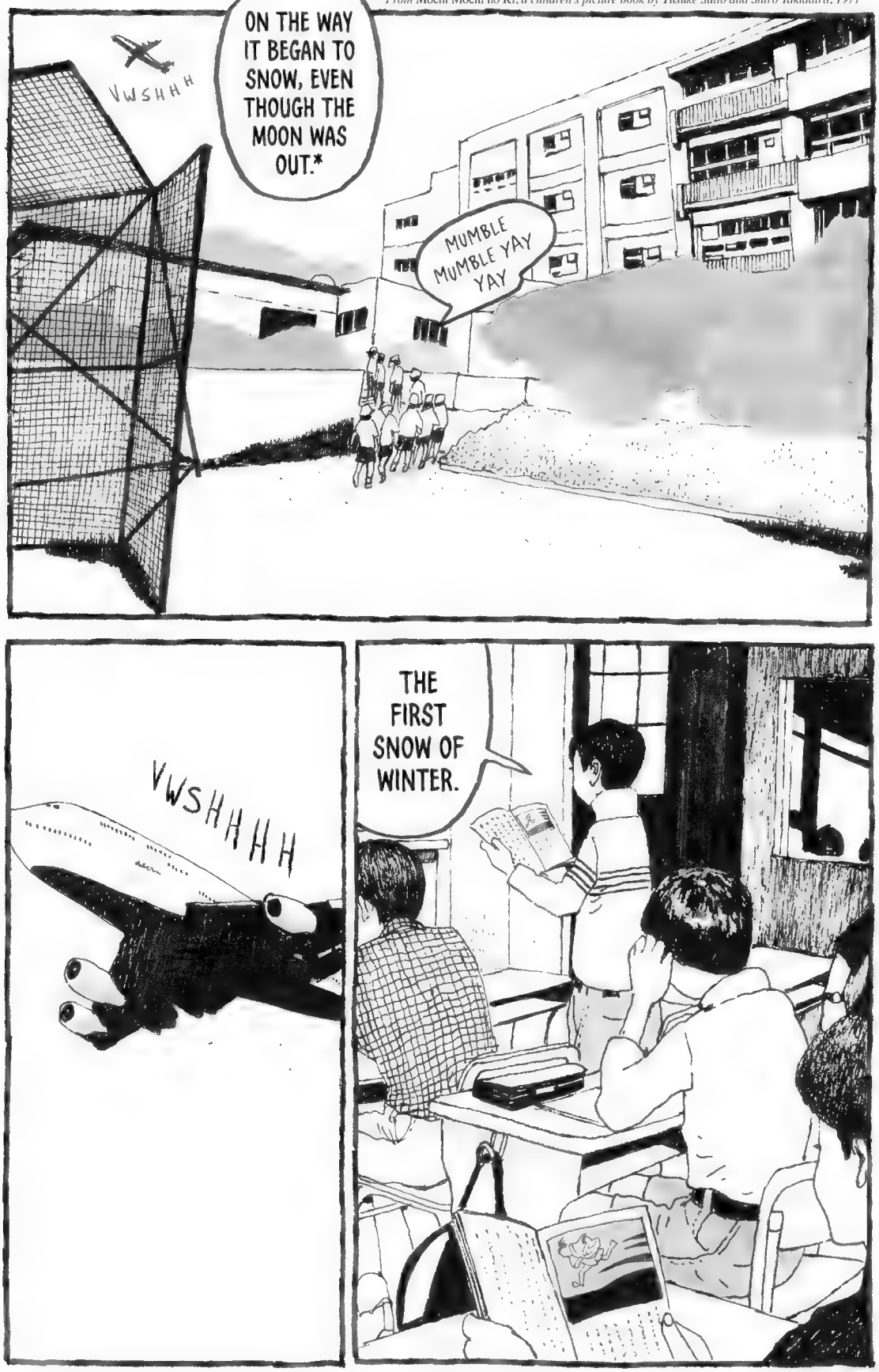
GROWN-UPS ARE LUCKY THEY DON'T HAVE SCHOOL.
SCRAPE SCRAPE
HEY KIDS, DON'T DRAG YOUR FEET!
BLACKIE TOO.
BYE-BYE.
SHOSUKE TOO.
TARO'S LUCKY TOO.
I WISH SCHOOL WOULD JUST BLOW UP AND DISAPPEAR.

HUFF
88
YOU'LL HAFTA GO TO STUDY HALL AGAIN!
HARUO, YOU DITCHING AGAIN TODAY?
YAAAH!
THE FOREST IS CALLING ME!
JUS' IGNORE HIM.
IDIOT.
CAN'T BREATHE AROUND KIDS FROM THE HOME.

...THOSE DUMMIES DRAW MONSTERS AND PLAY WITH CLAY.
WHEN WE'RE DOING OUR TIMES TABLES AND FRACTIONS...
THAT'S WHERE ALL THE SUPER-DUMMIES HANG OUT.
WHAT DO THEY DO IN STUDY HALL?
KA KLUNK
KA KLUNK
HARUO'S A *REGULAR* THERE.
I AM NOT A REGULAR!!
YEAH! YOU'RE A *REGULAR* TOO, STUPID!!
LOOK WHO'S TALKING. YOU GO THERE TOO.
Only go there during math...

SMART-EST KID FROM THE HOME !!
YEAH, SEI'S A GENIUS.
SEI WON'T BE GOIN' TO STUDY HALL.
HOO
Bonk...
W
YEAH, WELL I'M A HAR-MONICA GENIUS!
YOU'RE NOT EVEN PLAYING IT RIGHT!
SHUT UP, JUNSUKE !!
HODEY HOOO HODEY HOOO HOOWAAA
THAT'S NOT EVEN MUSICAL!!

*From Mochi Mochi no Ki, a children's picture book by Yūsuke Saito and Shirō Takidaira, 1971



MAMETA COULD SEE IT FROM INSIDE THE POUCH.
VERY GOOD.
SO HE GAVE THE DOCTOR A KICK IN THE BACK.
HEY.
BOOORING.
JUNSUKE, YOU READ NEXT.

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
I LOVE LUNCHTIME.
I KNEW IT! FRIED CHICKEN AND OMELETTE, AS USUAL ...
IT'D BE GREAT IF SCHOOL WAS ALWAYS LUNCHTIME.
No surprises here...

...I'M JUST JEALOUS.
SNORT
BUT, REALLY...
SHINY AND SPARKLY.
I WANT A NICE LUNCHBOX AND CHOPSTICKS, LIKE THOSE.

JUNSUKE, YOU'RE JUST LIKE A CROW.
THAT'S WHAT MAKIO SAID THE OTHER DAY.
I LIKE SHINY STUFF.
SPARKLE
SPARKLE...
ALL SHINY.
THOSE CHOP-STICKS LOOK JUST LIKE CANDY.
I HEARD CROWS EAT THE EYES OUT OF CATS.
YUK.
Shhhh

CHOMP
CHOMP
LUNCH-
TIME NOW,
Y'ALL...
Ooooh...

THE WAY BACK IS FUN, EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE SAME AS THE WAY THERE!
WHRR
HOOWAAA
HOOEY HOO
HEY, HAIR-BALL!
SKID
LOOKIN' SHARP, HEH HEH.
GOT AN UMBRELLA AND IT AIN'T EVEN RAINING.
SNICKER
PLAYIN' THAT STUPID HARMON-ICA...

CHECK OUT DRACULA'S FINGER-NAILS.
DON'T YOU EVEN HAVE A BATHTUB IN THERE?!
GAK!
CAN SMELL 'IM MILES AWAY.
WHITE'S COMIN'!!
YAAAAH
WHAT THE—?!
YEAH ...
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
KLUNK
KLUNK

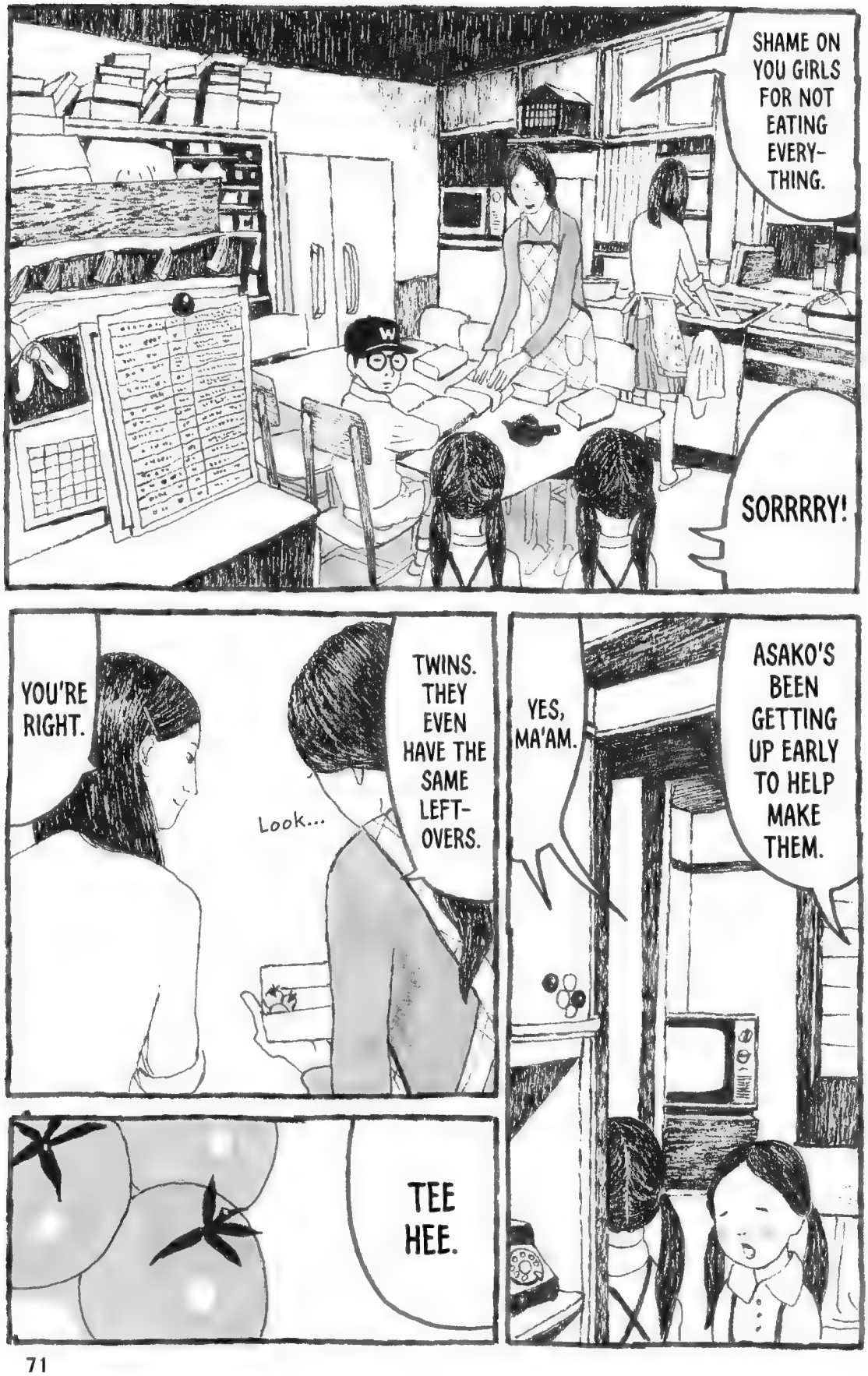
YAAAH
88
KRASH
EEAGH !!
AGH.
HOLD THIS, JUNSUKE !!

KIDS IN THE HOME CALL HARUO WHITE.
NOOO!
UH-OH.
SWOOSH
HORNY-KEN'S SHADES.
LOOK ...
GAK!!
YANK
THEY CALL HIM THAT BECAUSE HIS HAIR'S ALL WHITE.

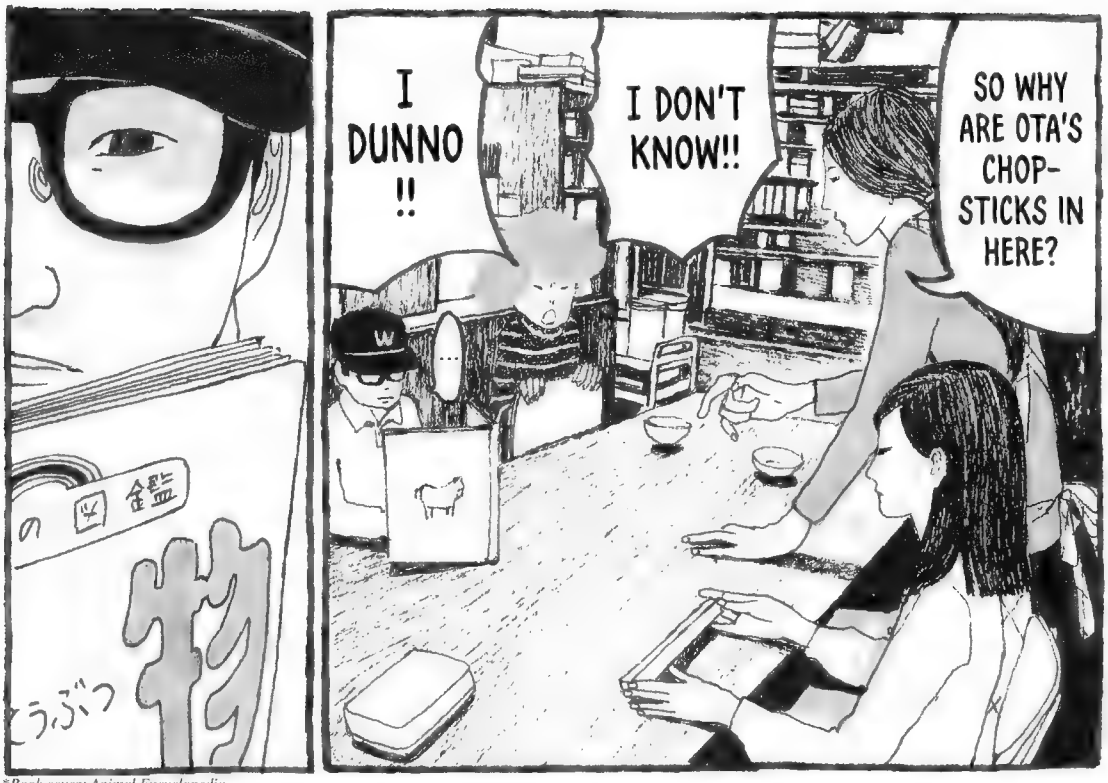
Oh man ...
PUSSYYY! PUSSYYY!
OKAY, NOW SAY "PUSSY"! SAY IT!
NEIGH LIKE A HORSE! "WHINNY" !
WHINNYYY! WHINNYYY!
LOOKS ALL DARK AN' CLOUDY.
C'MON, WHITE, WE'RE SORRY, OKAY?
Take that!
Can't breathe ...

HERE...
CLO-
VER.
SHOSUKE,
LEMME SEE
WHICH ONE.
NO, SEE,
THIS ONE'S GOT
THREE LEAVES.
WE WANT 'EM
WITH FOUR.
FO-
WER.
HERE
...
VROOM.

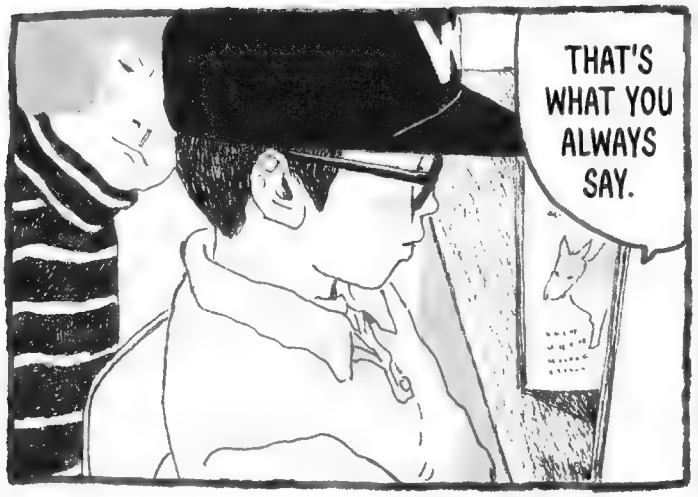
BANG.
BOOM!
RAT-A-TAT-TAT!
So noisy...
WHERE?
FOUND ONE.


SHAME ON YOU GIRLS FOR NOT EATING EVERY-THING.
SORRRRY!
ASAKO'S BEEN GETTING UP EARLY TO HELP MAKE THEM.
YES, MA'AM.
TWINS. THEY EVEN HAVE THE SAME LEFT-OVERS.
Look...
YOU'RE RIGHT.
TEE HEE.

WHAT'S THE MATTER ?
HE DID IT AGAIN...?
HMM...
I DIDN'T STEAL IT!!!
JUNSUKE.

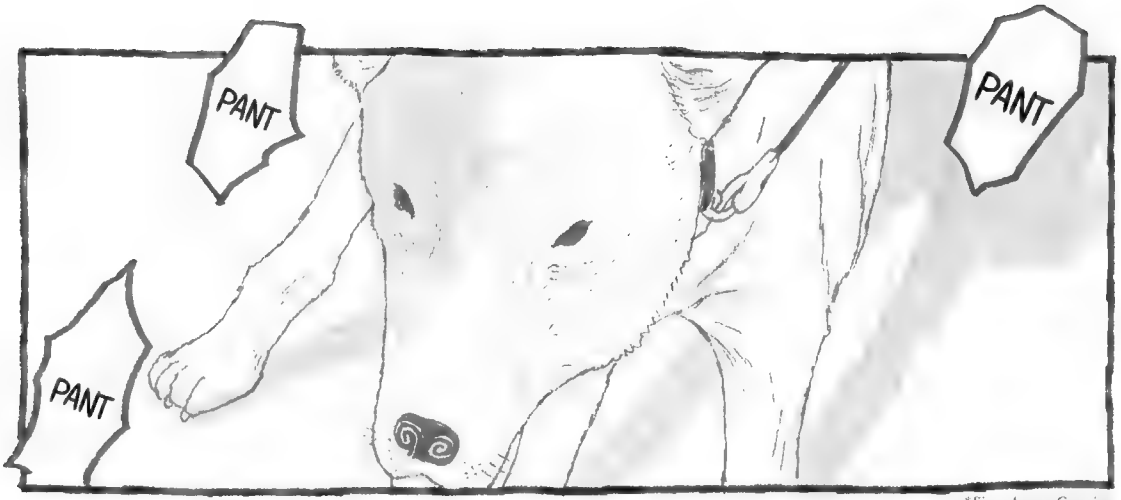


*Book cover: Animal Encyclopedia



ALL RIGHT NOW, JUST GIVE IT BACK.
I SAID I DIDN'T STEAL IT!!
YOU ALWAYS STEAL STUFF AND THEN SAY IT WAS "GOD."
BUMP
OW.
REMEMBER TO SAY YOU'RE SORRY.
TSK.
TSK.
JUNSUKE JUST ELBOWED ME!

HARUO, CAN YOU COME TO OTA'S HOUSE WITH ME?
NO WAY.

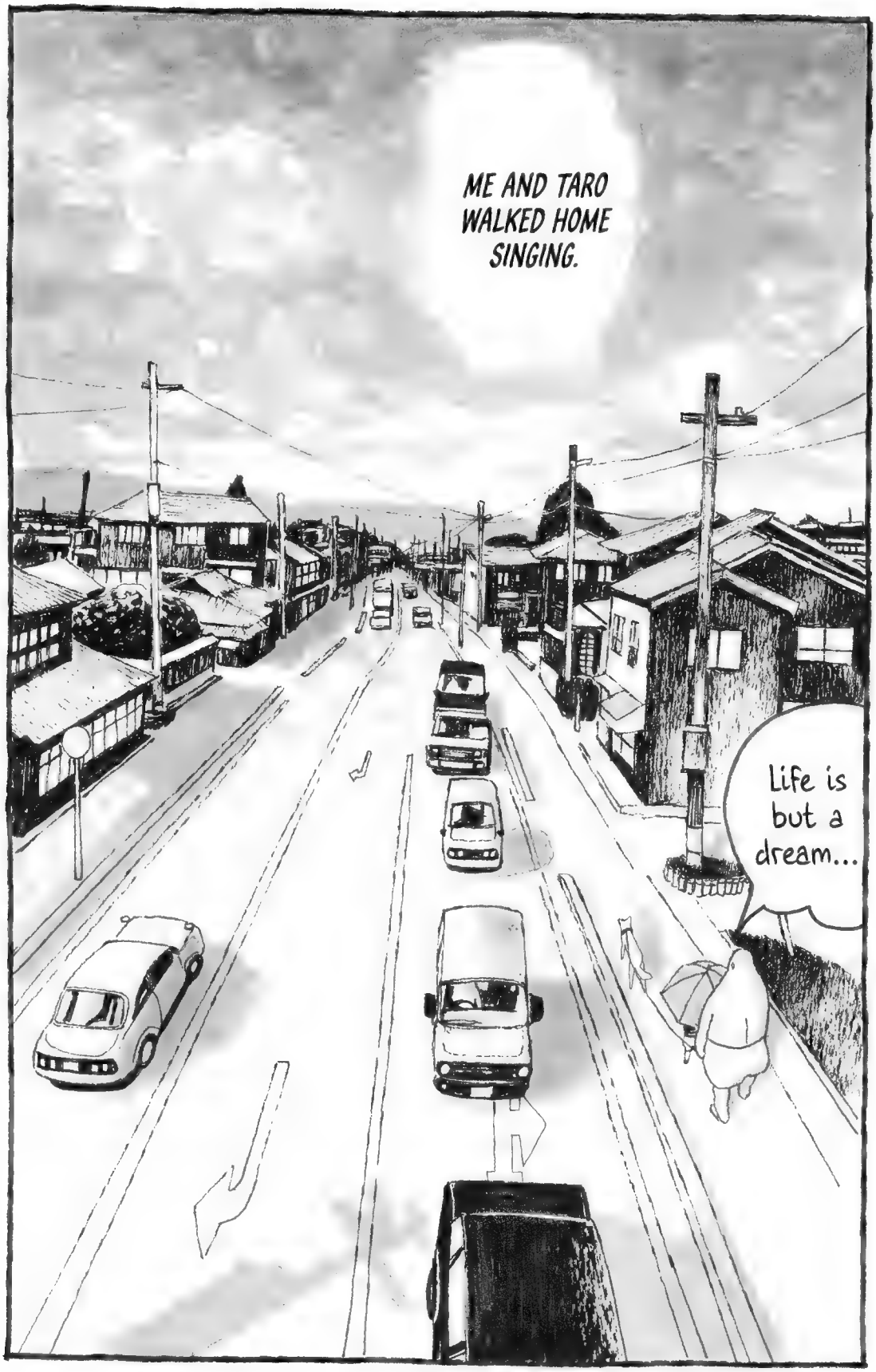


*Sign: Ayama Crossing

SOME SHINY CHOPSTICKS *APPEARED* IN MY BOOKBAG.
IT'S DINNER-TIME!
JUNSUKE, WHERE YOU GOING?
HOOEY HOO
BE BACK BE-FORE DARK!
?
HAHA. SURE GOT A LOTTA WEIRDOS THERE...

I GOT IN TROUBLE 'CAUSE YOU TOOK THEM.
WHEN WE GOT TO OTA'S, IT SMELLED LIKE DINNER.
SORRRRY.
YOUR REWARD FOR STOPPING BY.
HERE'S SOME SWEETS FOR YOU AND TARO.
GOOD OF YOU TO COME, JUNSUKE.
OKO-NOMI-YAKI.
YOU HAVING TAKO-YAKI?
YUMMM. I LOVE OKONOMI-YAKI.
YES, MA'AM!
DON'T SHOW THE OTHER KIDS.

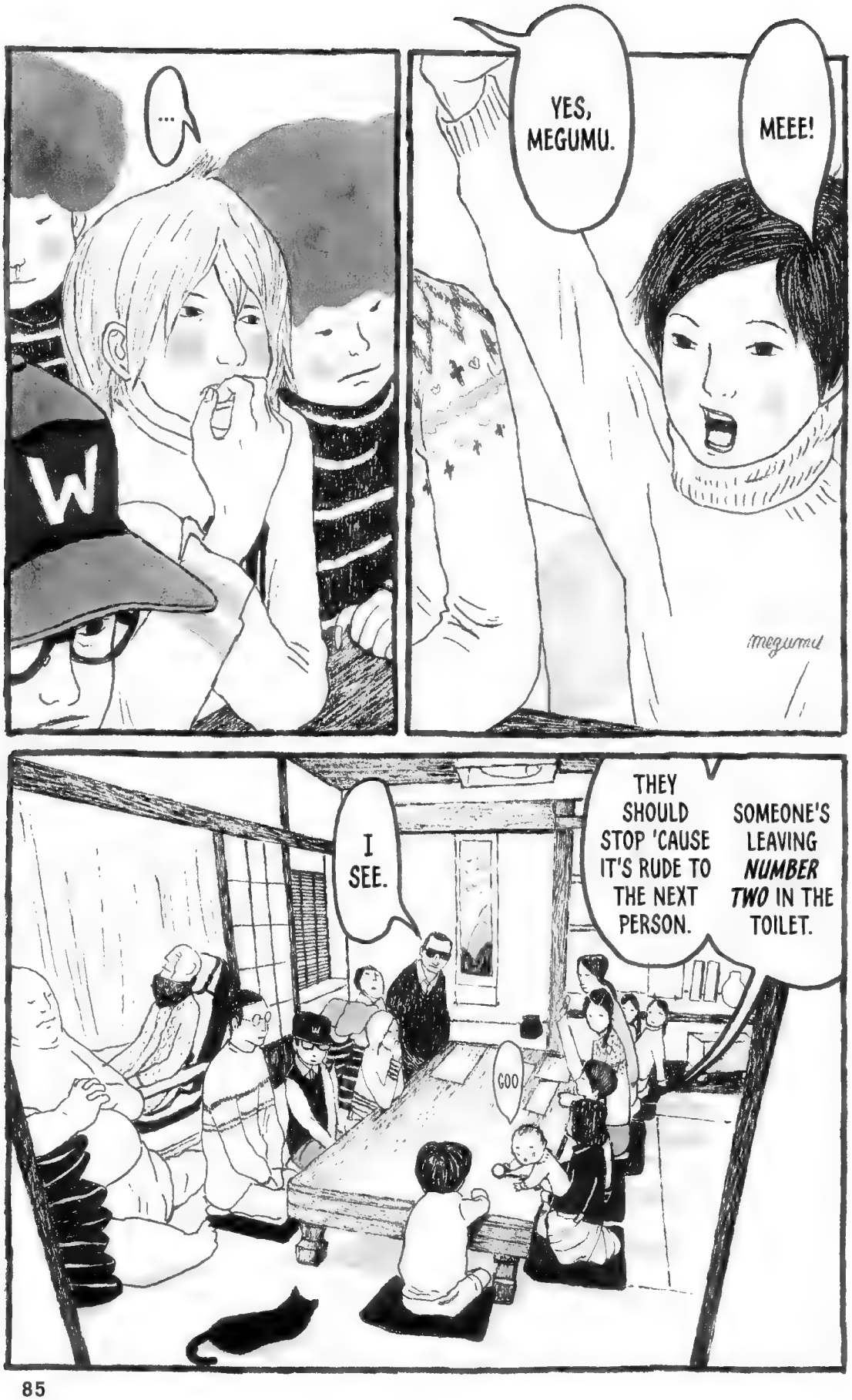
I GOT SHINY CANDIES FOR TAKING BACK THE SHINY CHOPSTICKS.
UHHH
THANK YOU, MA'AM!
THE SKY LOOKS LIKE HALF-DAYTIME HALF-NIGHTTIME.
ME AND TARO WALKED HOME SINGING.
Row row row your boat Gently down the stream...
WONDER IF THE CANDY'LL BE GONE WHEN WE GET HOME.
CARS HAVE WHITE LIGHTS IN FRONT AND RED LIGHTS IN BACK.


ME AND TARO WALKED HOME SINGING.
Life is but a dream...

CHAPTER 3

"Why do girls always cry?"

"'Cause almost nothin' can beat a girl's tears."

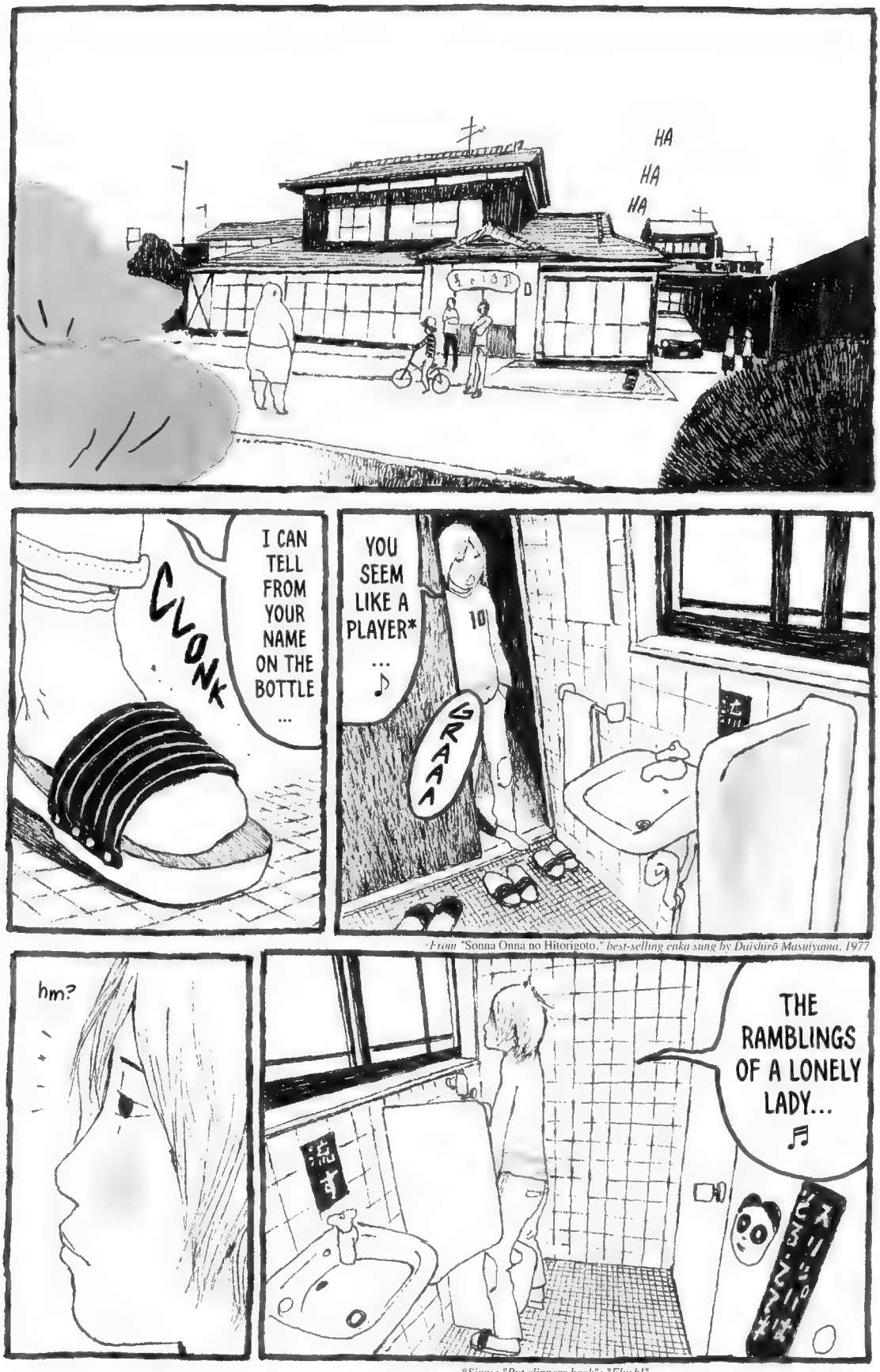

...
W
YES, MEGUMU.
MEEE!
megumu
I SEE.
THEY SHOULD STOP 'CAUSE IT'S RUDE TO THE NEXT PERSON.
SOMEONE'S LEAVING *NUMBER TWO* IN THE TOILET.
GOO

IS MY NAME ON THE POO?!
WHERE'S YOUR EVIDENCE ?!
YEAH, EVERY TIME YOU GO THERE'S POO LEFT BEHIND.
SHOCK
I THINK JUNSUKE'S THE CULPRIT.
IT AIN'T ME!!
WHO ELSE COULD IT BE?!
LOOK WHO'S TALKING ABOUT EVIDENCE, STUPID!
IT'S A STAR KIDS MEETING.
KENJI, IT'S NOT A "POO MEETING."
NOT FUNNY, KENJI.
WHY ARE WE STILL HAVING THIS POO MEETING ?
IT'S THE WEEK-END...

YOU'RE FULL OF IT, MEGUMU.
GOO
I AM NOT!
HEH.
YOU'RE BLAMING THE POO ON JUNSUKE 'CAUSE IT'S REALLY YOURS.
MAYBE YOU NEED SOME TIME *ALONE* AGAIN?
QUIT BUTT-ING IN, HARUO ...
SO STUPID.
PHOOO
WHAT, I'M NOT ALLOWED TO SPEAK ?

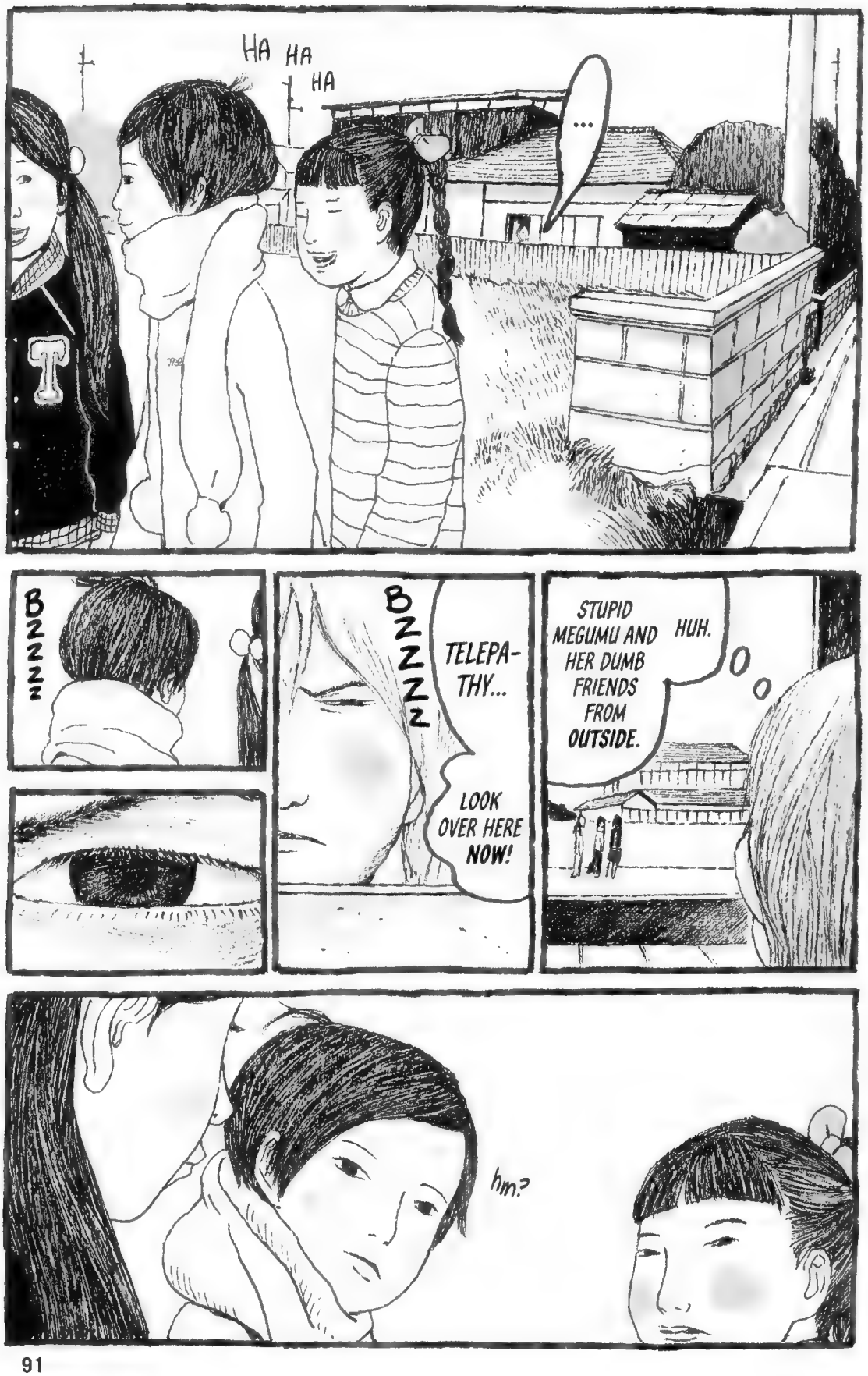
CUT IT OUT, HARUO!
OH NO, MEGUMU, DON'T CRY.
GWAA
HARUO JUST SAYS THAT STUFF 'CAUSE YOU ALWAYS CRY.
TSK.

ALL RIGHT, THAT'S IT FOR TODAY.
SO JUST BE SURE AND FLUSH, JUNSUKE.
WHAT!!
I TOL' YOU, IT AIN'T MY POO!!
OKAY, JUNSUKE, JUST BE SURE TO FLUSH.
HMPH
OBJEC-TION! OB-JECTION!
OBJEC-TION!

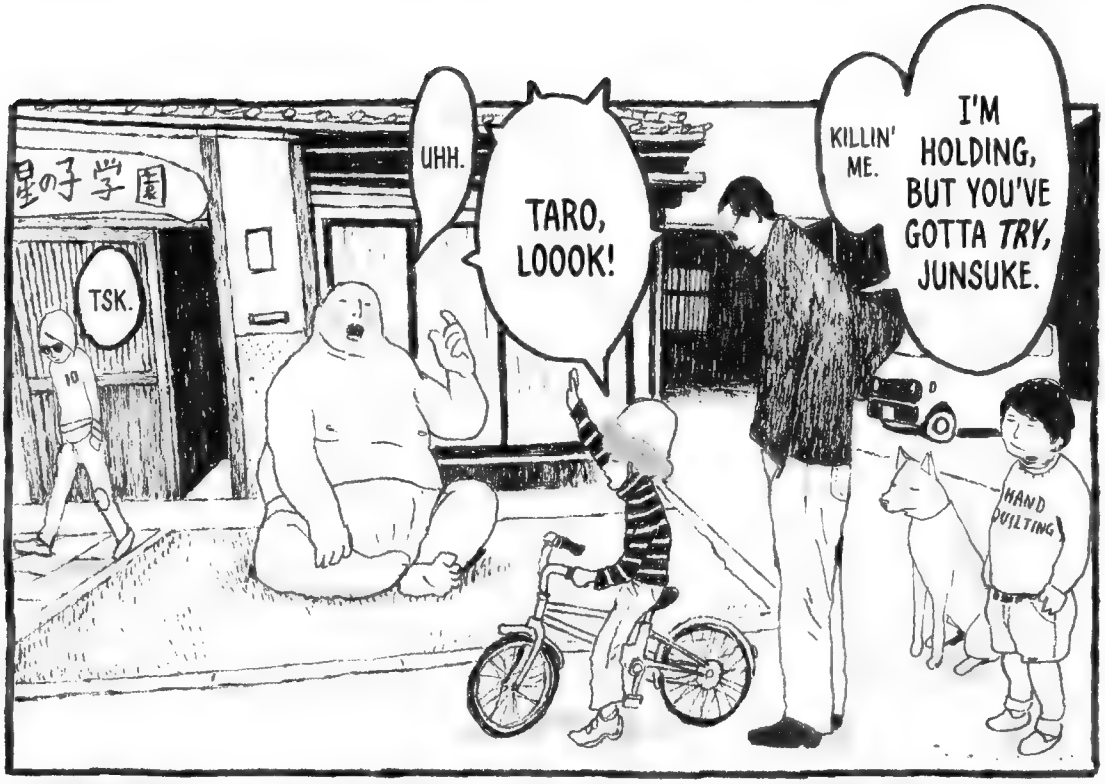


From "Sonna Onna no Hitorigoto," best-selling enka sung by Daishirô Masuiyama, 1977

Signs: "Put slippers back"; "Flush!"


HA HA HA
...
BZZZZ
BZZZZ
TELEPA-THY...
LOOK OVER HERE NOW!
STUPID MEGUMU AND HER DUMB FRIENDS FROM OUTSIDE.
HUH.
hm?

TELE-PATHY RULES!
HEH HEH HEH.
CREEPY ...
THOUGHT SOMEONE WAS WATCHING US.
WHAT-SA-MAT-TER?
I SAID, DON'T LET GO!!
QUIT LETTING GO!!


星の子学園
TSK.
UHH.
TARO, LOOOK!
KILLIN' ME.
I'M HOLDING, BUT YOU'VE GOTTA *TRY*, JUNSUKE.
HAND QUILTING

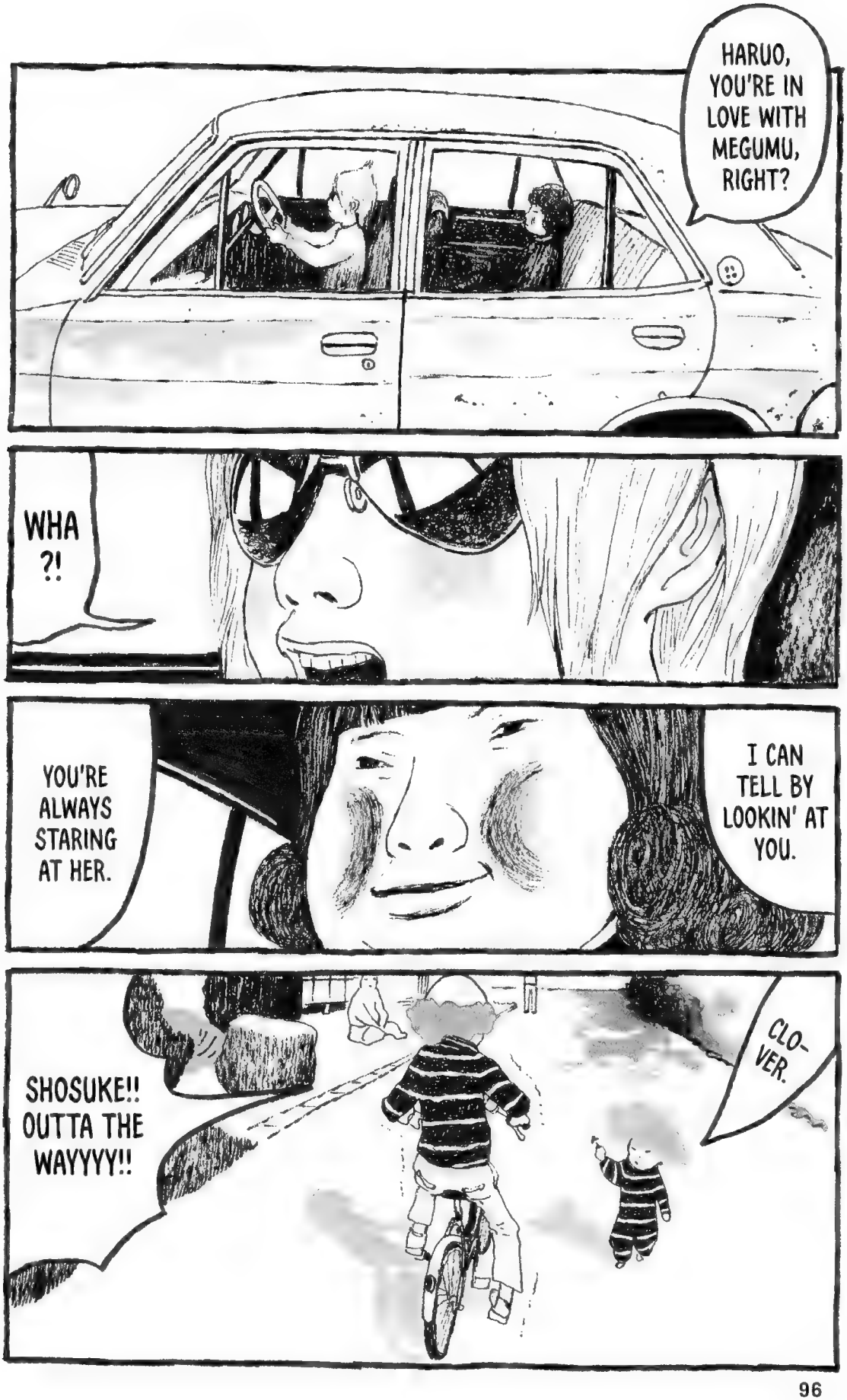
"BIG SISTER, I'M TOO EMBARASSED TO DO *THAT*."

"GIRLS GIVE THEMSELVES TO THE MAN THEY LOVE, LIKE THIS ..."

"YOU'RE STILL JUST A CHILD."

CAUGHT YOU!
"DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT MEN."
YOU CRAMP MY STYLE.
GET OUT, KIKO!
...
I'M RIDING! I'M RIDING! LOOK AT MEEE!!
WHOAA

GAK!
CRASH
BANF
TSK.
THE SUNNY'S NOT JUS' FOR BOYS, HARUO.
HEE HEE ...
WELL, I'D LIKE TO GO TO THE STATION, PLEASE.
!
WHERE TO, MISS?
...
VRRRRR
YES, MA'AM.


HARUO, YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH MEGUMU, RIGHT?
WHA ?!
YOU'RE ALWAYS STARING AT HER.
I CAN TELL BY LOOKIN' AT YOU.
SHOSUKE!! OUTTA THE WAYYYY!!
CLO- VER.

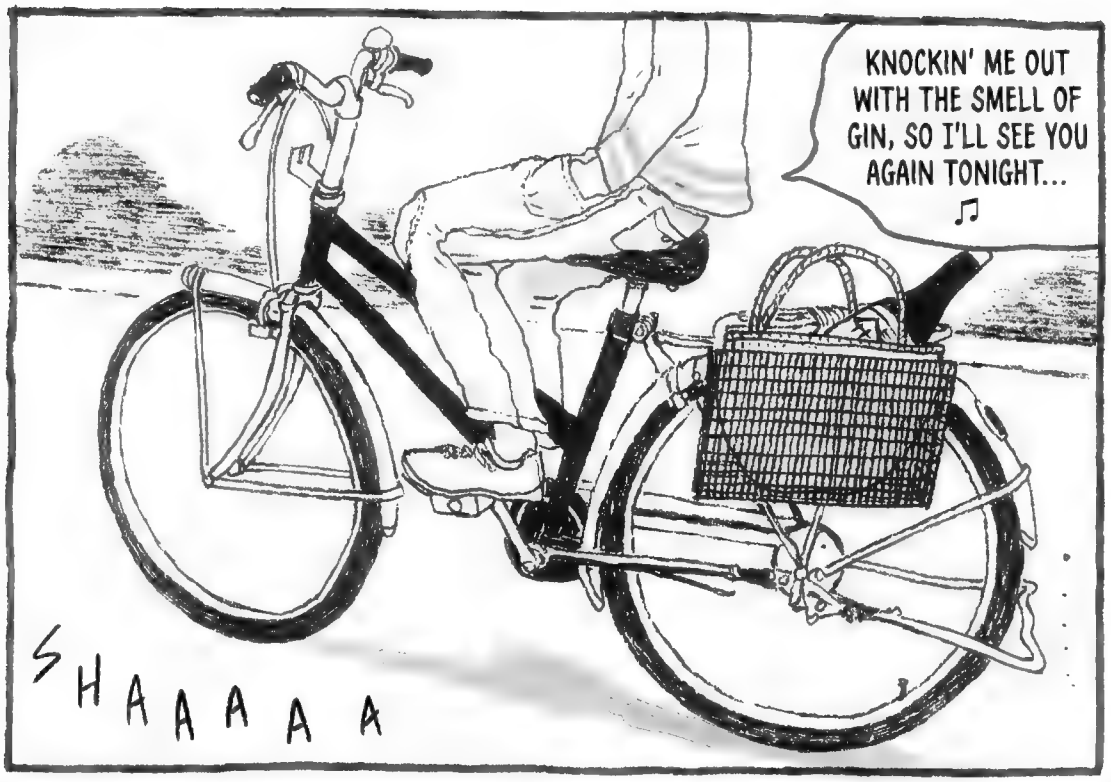
*Nickname of [illegible] and former teen idol Kenji Sawada

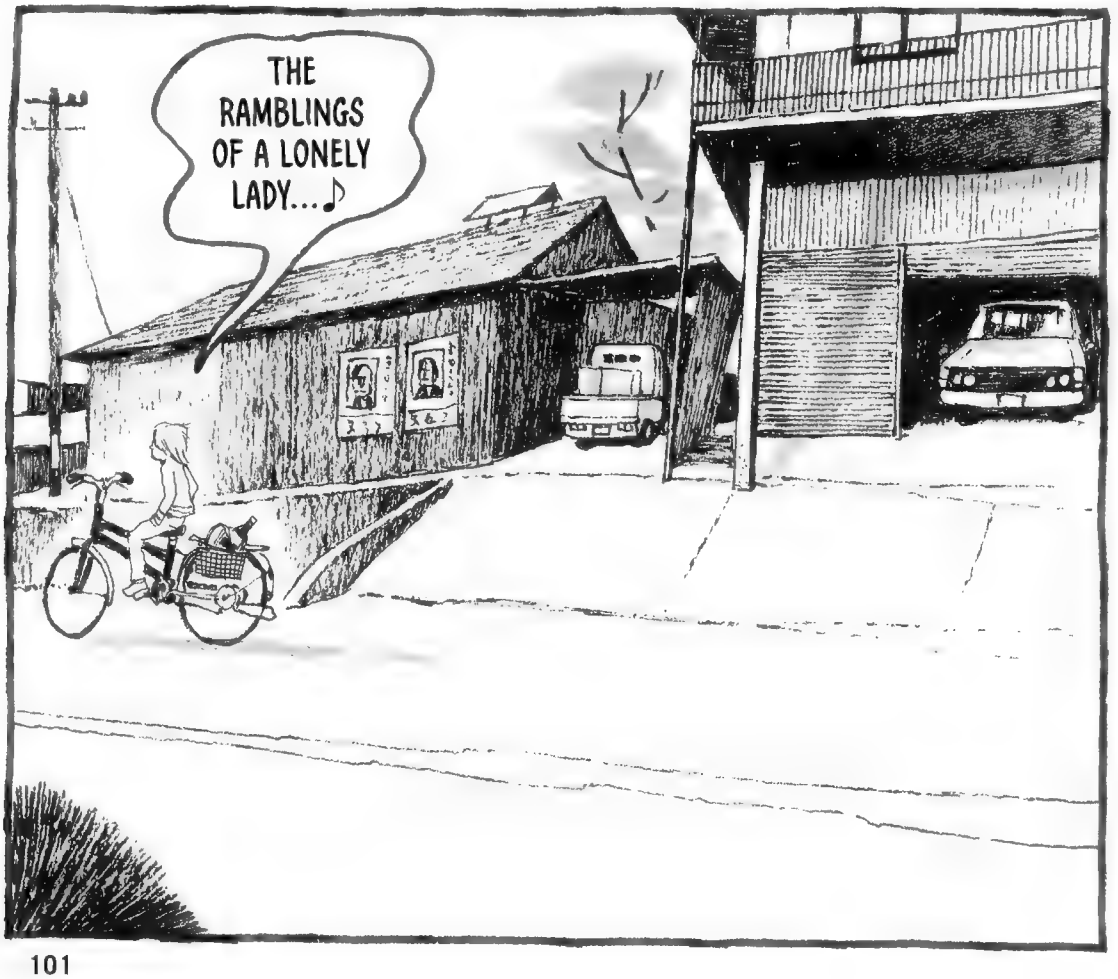
SO WHO IS IT? WHO CARES ANYWAY...
NOT TELLING YOU, DUMMY!
US GIRLS STICK TO-GETHER.
WHY D'YA THINK THAT?
Who cares any-way ...
YER IN LOVE WITH SEI, RIGHT?!
I LOVE SOMEONE IN THE HOME TOO.
'CAUSE YOU GIRLS ARE ALWAYS SWARMING 'ROUND NEW-NERD-ON-THE-BLOCK.
HARUO ...

I LOVE YOU.
I WANNA MARRY YOU.
HARU-OH...
HEYY

MISS MITSUKO'S CALLING YOU.
I'LL GO.
YEAH.
WANTS YOU TO PICK UP SOME SOY SAUCE.
...
星

*Bike: "star"


KNOCKIN' ME OUT WITH THE SMELL OF GIN, SO I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN TONIGHT... ♫
SHAAAAA


THE RAMBLINGS OF A LONELY LADY...♪

SHAAA
OH... HARUO.
HEY MEGU-MU.
SKREE
WHAT'S UP?
THERE...

LOOKS LIKE A CAR HIT 'IM.
SO SAD. HE'S DEAD AND HIS GUTS ARE STICKING OUT.
HEY, HARUO ...
HOPE THE GUY THAT DID IT DIES OF GUILT !!!
I WANNA GIVE HIM A FUNERAL AN' BURY HIM.
HM?
WHAA?

SPLISH
EWW!
HEY, HARUO ...
NO WAY HE'S STILL MOVING...
...
YEAH, HE'S DEAD. HARD AS A ROCK.
HOW DID I GET MYSELF INTO THIS...

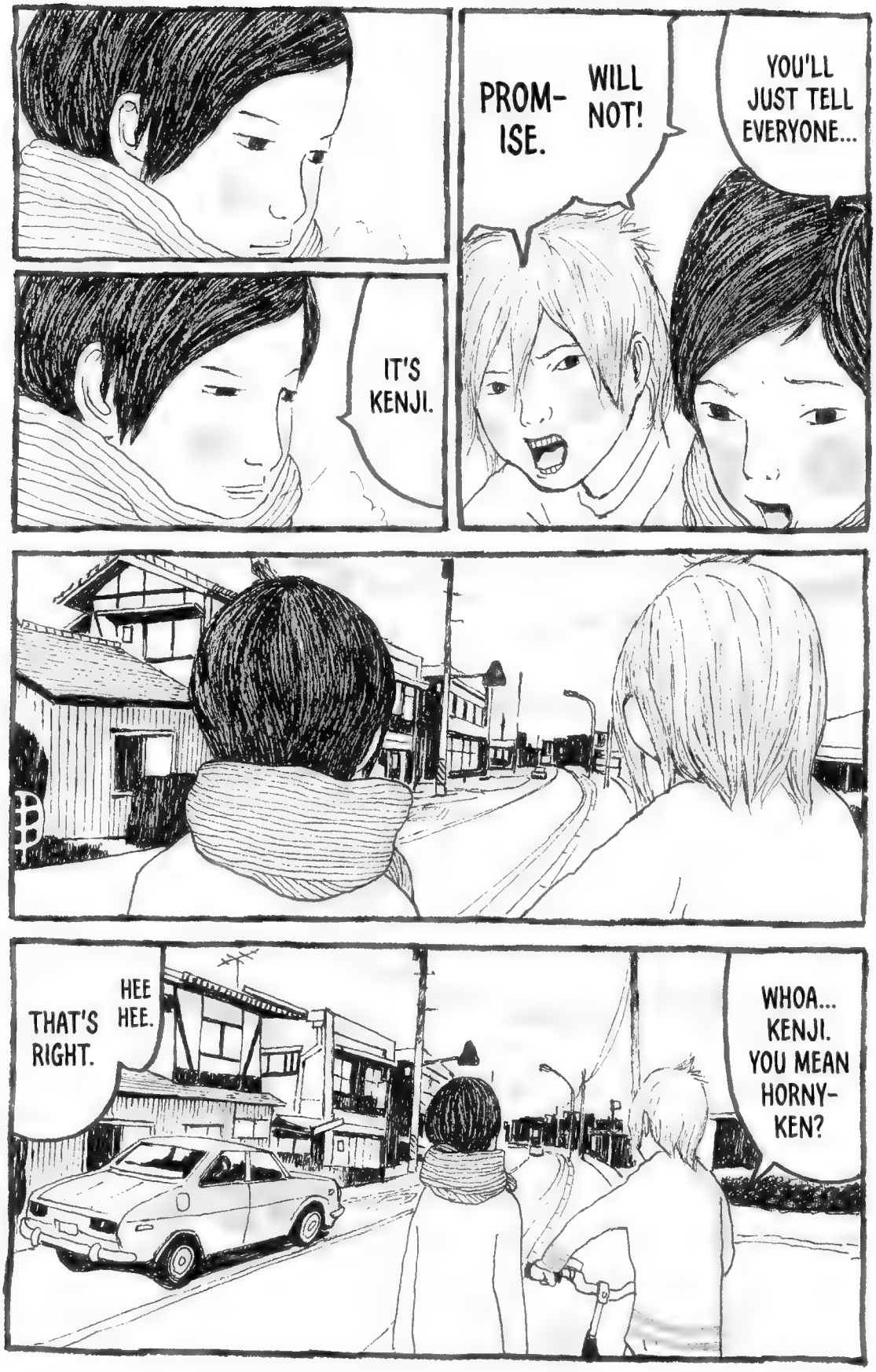
WHAT NOW?!
HARUO, DO YOU ...
10
YEAH.
YOU MEAN WITH YOUR GUTS COMING OUT OF YOUR BUTT?!
DO YOU THINK IT'LL BE LIKE THIS WHEN I DIE?
Y'KNOW ?
NO ONE REALLY CARES ABOUT ORPHANS.
LIKE IF A CAR KNOCKED ME IN THE RIVER AND NO ONE FOUND ME.

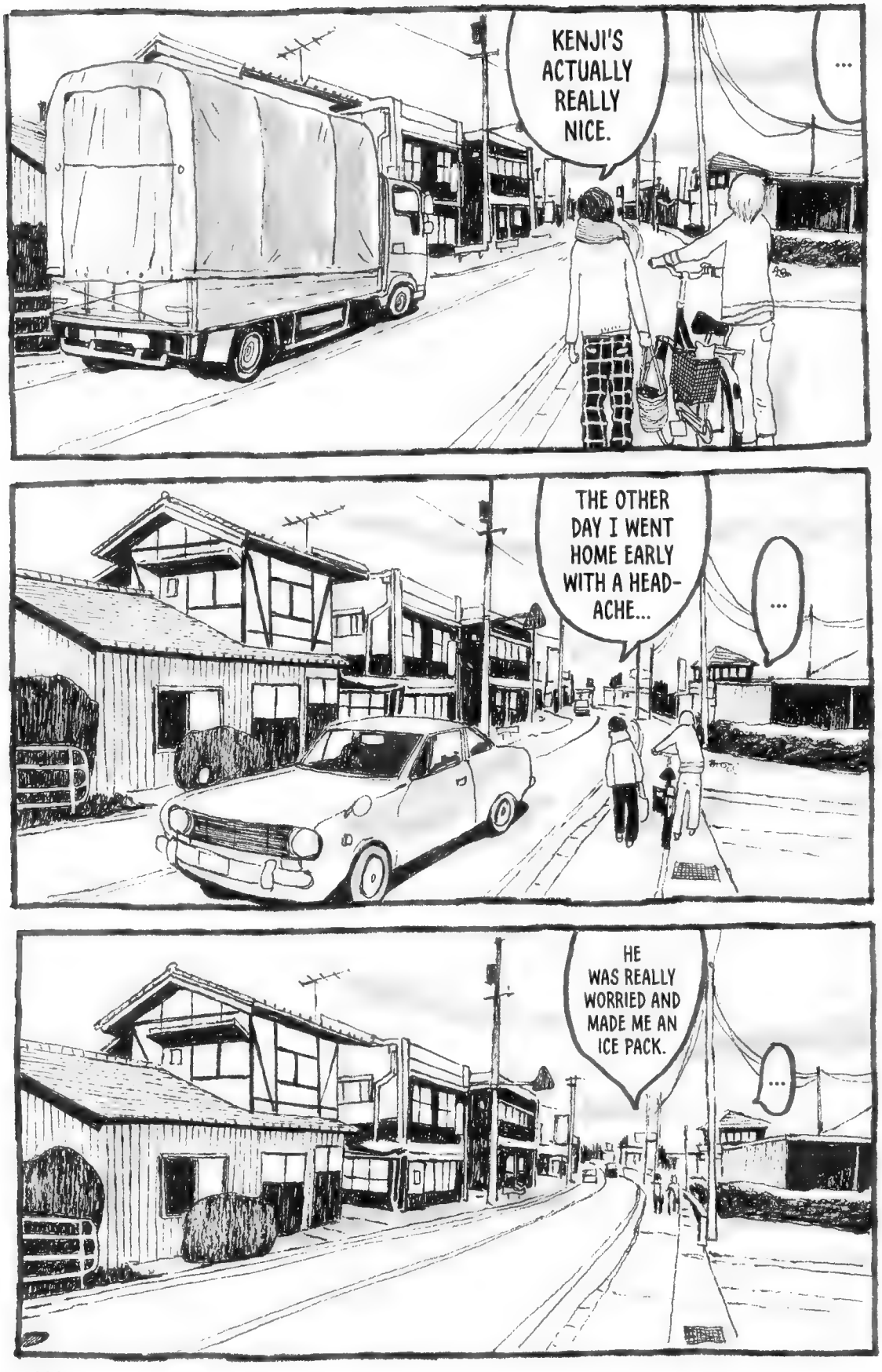
I...
IN THE RIVER WITH MY EYES STILL OPEN, WAITING FOR A STRANGER TO FIND ME...
I'M HERE, AIN'T I?!
10
I GET REALLY SCARED WHEN I THINK ABOUT THAT.

I'LL FIND YOU AND MAKE A BIG GRAVE FOR YOU!!
I AIN'T NO STRAN-GER!!
I'LL FIND YOU!!
YEAH ...

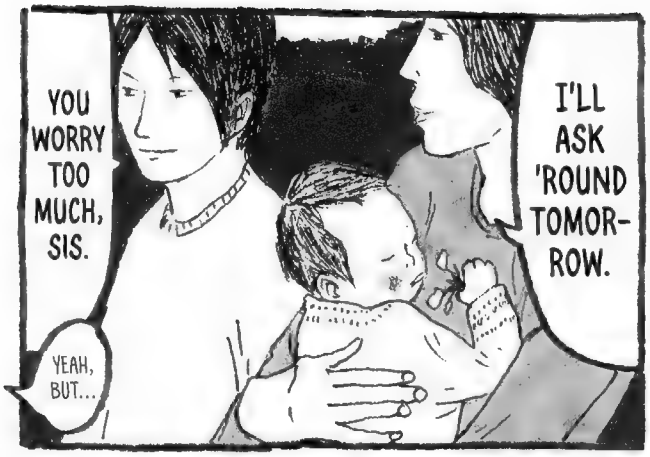
THANKS, HARUO.
GET BACK UP HERE...
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD...
YEAH ...
TELL ME ABOUT IT.

CLATTER
CLATTER
CLATTER
WHY SO INTERESTED ALL OF A SUDDEN?!
KIKO SAID SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
MEGUMU, DO YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND AT THE HOME?
WELL, DO YOU?
SHE'S A REAL BIG-MOUTH.
KIKO SAID *THAT?*


IT'S KENJI.
YOU'LL JUST TELL EVERYONE...
WILL NOT!
PROM- ISE.
THAT'S RIGHT.
HEE HEE.
WHOA... KENJI. YOU MEAN HORNY- KEN?


KENJI'S ACTUALLY REALLY NICE.
...
THE OTHER DAY I WENT HOME EARLY WITH A HEAD-ACHE...
...
HE WAS REALLY WORRIED AND MADE ME AN ICE PACK.
...

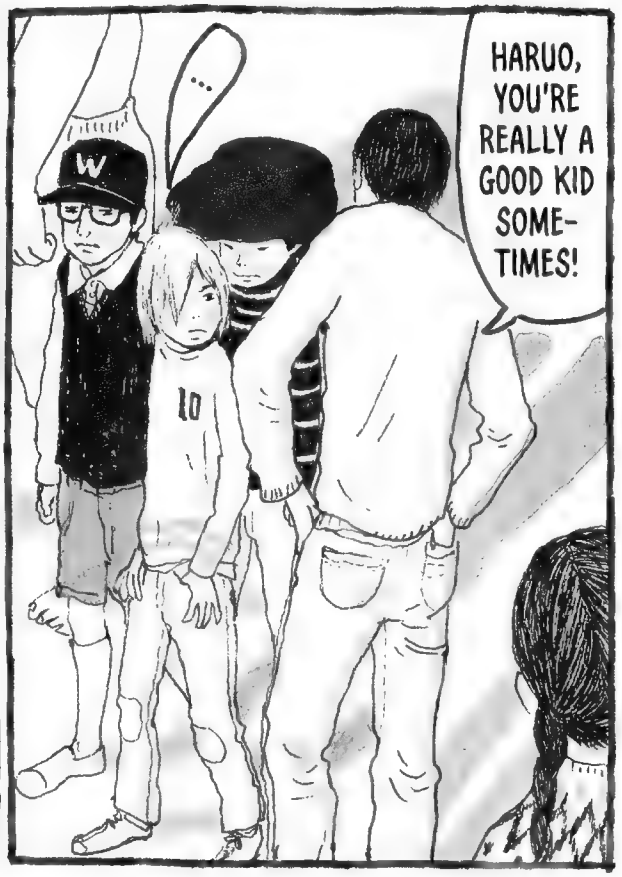
LET'S BEGIN.
MAY OUR STRAY CAT REST IN PEACE.

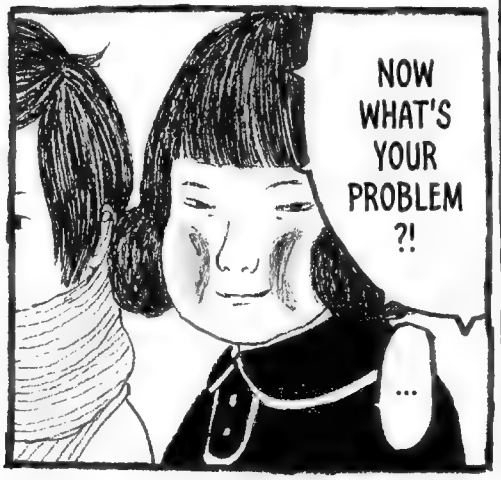

YOU WORRY TOO MUCH, SIS.
YEAH, BUT...
I'LL ASK 'ROUND TOMOR-ROW.

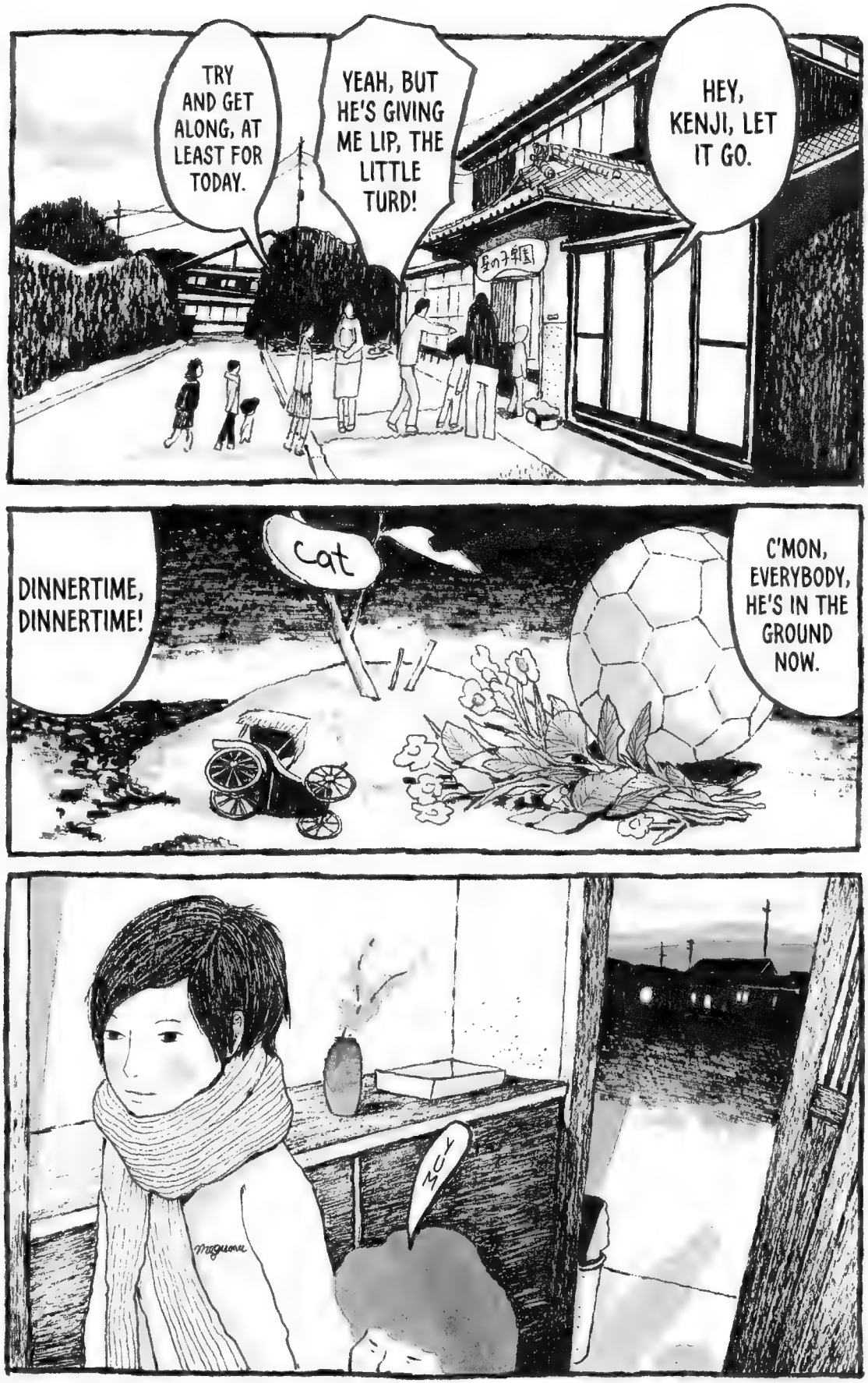
THE OWNER MIGHT BE LOOKING FOR HIM.
DIDN'T HAVE A COLLAR, BUT I WONDER IF HE WAS REALLY A STRAY.

MEGUMU AND HARUO DID A REALLY GOOD THING.

TSK.
WHA...


HARUO, YOU'RE REALLY A GOOD KID SOME-TIMES!
...


NOW WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM ?!
...

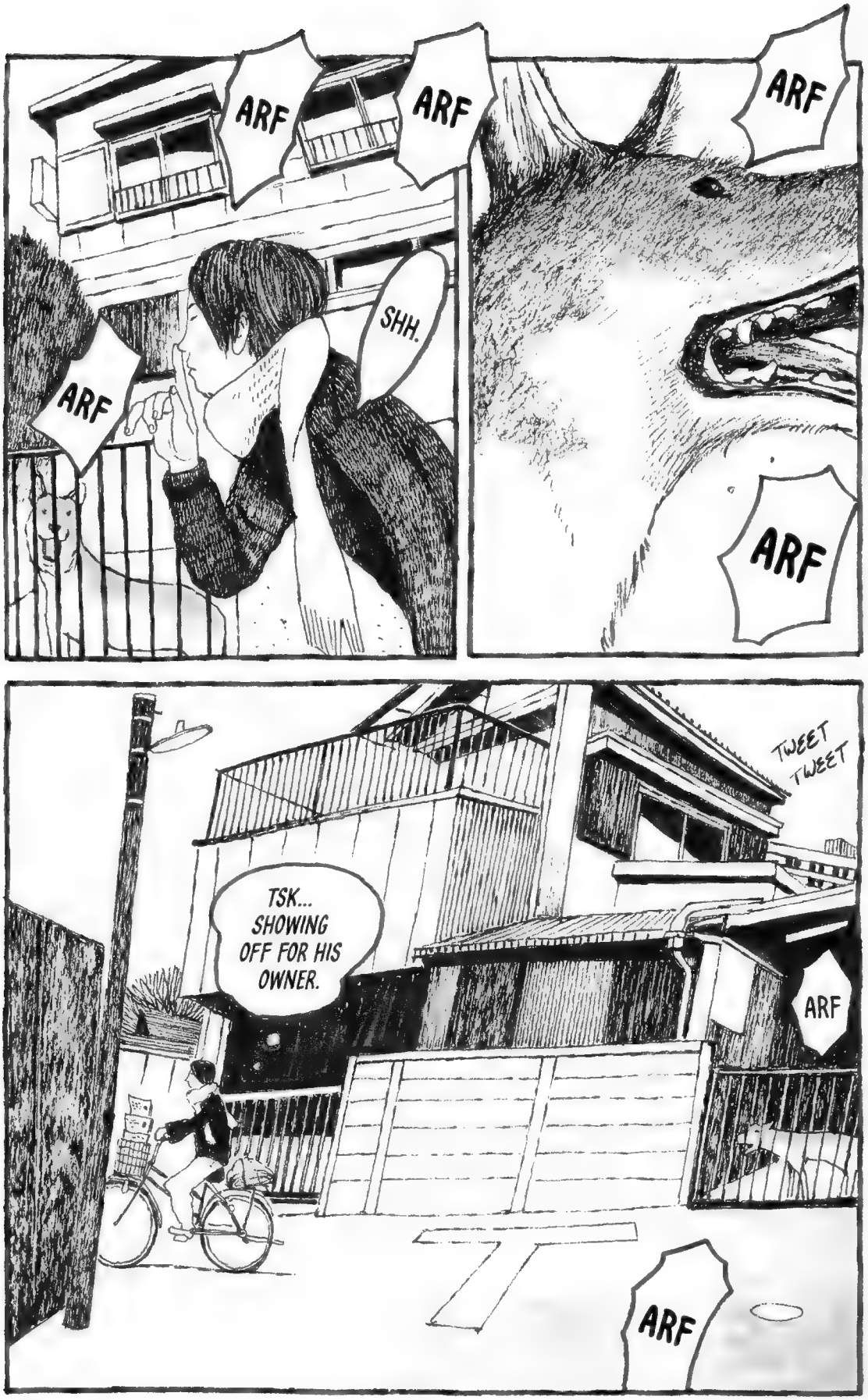

TRY AND GET ALONG, AT LEAST FOR TODAY.
YEAH, BUT HE'S GIVING ME LIP, THE LITTLE TURD!
HEY, KENJI, LET IT GO.
DINNERTIME, DINNERTIME!
cat
C'MON, EVERYBODY, HE'S IN THE GROUND NOW.
MOM

CHAPTER 4

"Whaddya wanna be when you grow up?"

"A spy and a racecar driver and a boxing champion."

SQUEEK
KLONK
KAKUNK
SLAP


ARF
ARF
SHH.
ARF
ARF
ARF
TWEET
TWEET
TSK... SHOWING OFF FOR HIS OWNER.
ARF
ARF

IT'S YOUR TURN TO CLEAN UP THE HALL-WAY. *BEFORE BREAKFAST,* THAT'S THE RULE!
WHAT?! NOW YOU'RE DREAMING!
SO I WON'T MAKE IT TO SCHOOL, GOT IT?!
I SAID I'LL DO IT NOW!
C'MON NOW, OUTTA THE WAY.
NO WAY!!
CLEAN IT UP NOW AND THEN OFF TO SCHOOL!

星の子学園
OH... KENJI.
HEY.
GONNA GET SPANKED!
NEXT BUS OR I'LL MISS ASSEMBLY...
星の子学
JUST TRY!
GO AHEAD ...
YEAH ...
FINISHED YOUR DELIVERY ROUTE?
EVERY MORN-ING!
YA LITTLE BRAT!
GRUNT
HEY, SIS...
YEAH?

WELL, WHAT?
FORGET ABOUT IT...
OWW.
HEY, NO BITING, HARUO!
TELL ME LATER, OKAY?
TALK TO YOU LATER.
THE TWO OF YOU, JUST STOP.
WATCH YER MOUTH, BOY!
I'LL KILL YOU, ADACHI!
COUNT ON IT!
BRRR. FREEZ-ING...

I TOLD YOU, THAT'S HOW I WANT IT.
OKAY, SO...
NONE OF MY BUSINESS WHETHER YOU FINISH MIDDLE OR HIGH SCHOOL.
THAT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD ...
IT'S A BIG DECISION THAT COULD AFFECT YOUR WHOLE LIFE.

IT'D BE DIFFERENT IF YOU HAD A GOAL IN MIND, LIKE SUSHI CHEF OR SOMETHING.
THAT'LL BE FOR ME TO DECIDE.
NO POINT IN TALKING IT OVER WITH THAT DRUNK.
SO LET'S GET YOUR DAD AND THE FOLKS FROM THE HOME IN HERE AND TALK IT OVER.
GROAN
WHAT A DRAG.

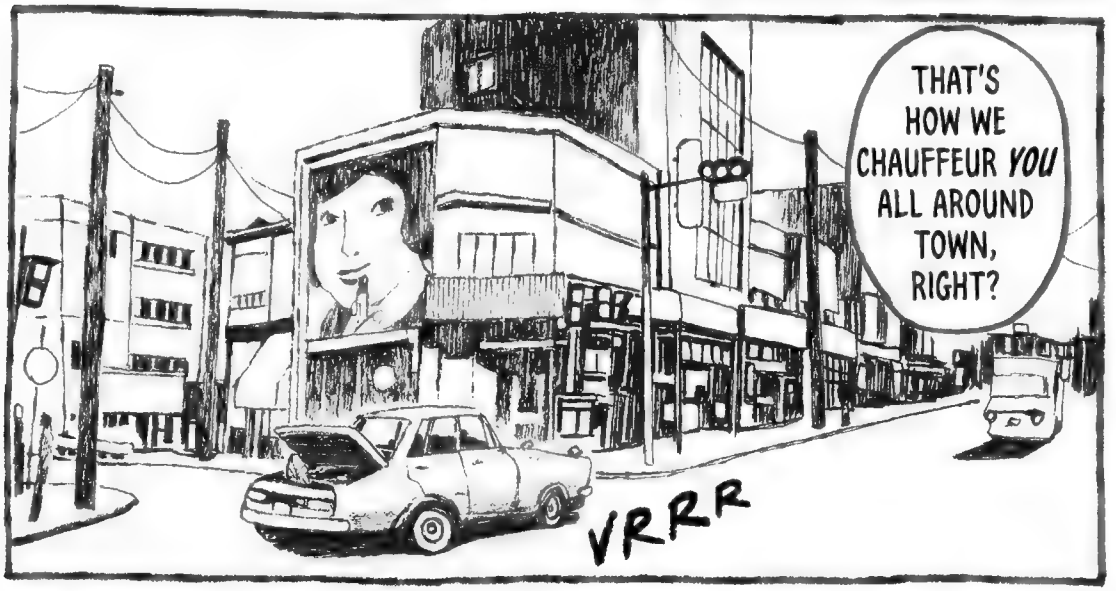
*"Senpai" = Senior club or class member

YOU'RE DROP-PING OUT, RIGHT?
HMM.
KIMURA SAID, "LET'S TALK IT OVER WITH YOUR DAD."
HARUNA, YOUR SKIRT'S TOO LONG.
SHUT UP, BITCH!
WHO ASKED YOU?!
UH-HUH.
I'M SICK OF CLASS-ROOMS AND UNIFORMS.

SO WHO'S THE KID, HARUNA?
VU VU VU
JUST TO THE STATION.
Vu
HEY, I DON'T LIKE GIVIN' RIDES TO STRANGERS.
C'MON, HURRY AND OPEN THE TRUNK.
SERIOUSLY?
IT'S NOT OKAY.
S'OKAY. I GOT MY BIKE AN' ALL...
VU
VU VU
SHUT UP AN' OPEN IT!!
JUST PUT HIS BIKE IN THE TRUNK AND DON'T SCRATCH MY RIDE.

VRRR
A "FOSTER KID," RIGHT?
DON'T MEET TOO MANY ORPHANS THESE DAYS.
HE TOLD YOU, HE'S GOT PARENTS.
TRY LISTEN-ING FOR ONCE.
SO WHY DON'T YOU JUST CALL YOUR DAD AND WORK IT OUT?
HE DOESN'T HAVE A PHONE.
HA.
OLD SCHOOL.
YOU'RE AWESOME, KENJI.

NOW, NOW...
NOT LIKE GUYS WHO JUST DRIVE AROUND IN CARS THEIR PARENTS BOUGHT.


THAT'S HOW WE CHAUFFEUR YOU ALL AROUND TOWN, RIGHT?
VRRR

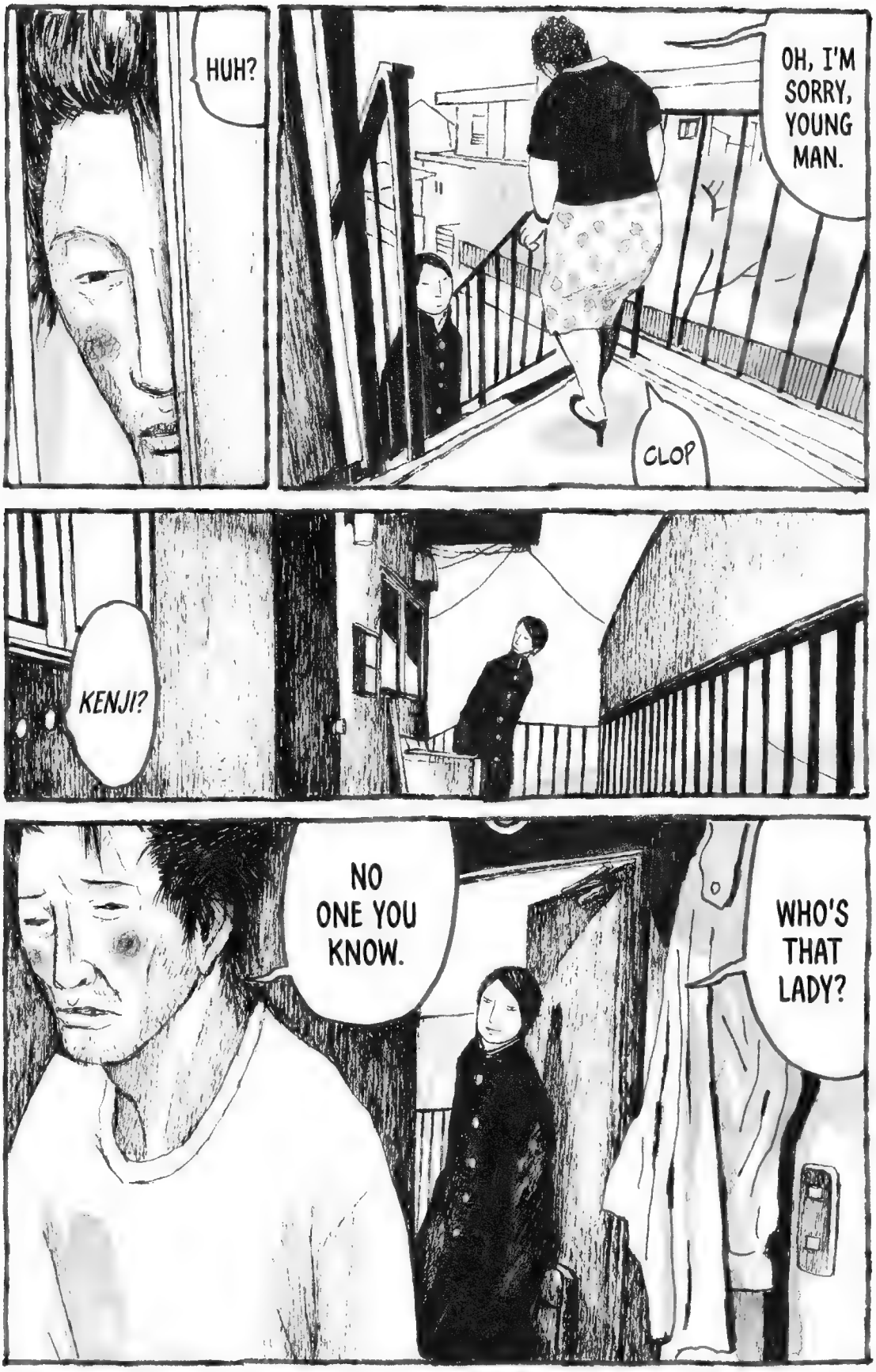
HERE...
THANKS.
NALK

OKAY, SURE ...
UH...
SMOKE?

GOOD LUCK, KENJI!
VRRR
...
POIK
PROB-ABLY YES...
PROB-ABLY NOT...
WONDER IF HARUNA HAD SEX WITH THOSE GUYS.
THAT WAS CLOSE.

Signs: Love Bar, Peeper

BE CAREFUL! THE DOOR'S WIDE OPEN...
?!
TMP...
GOT IT...
SQUEEK
TMP
TMP
TMP
AND THE OTHER DAY YOU LEFT THE STOVE BURNING! COULDA STARTED A FIRE...
OKAY, I GOT IT!

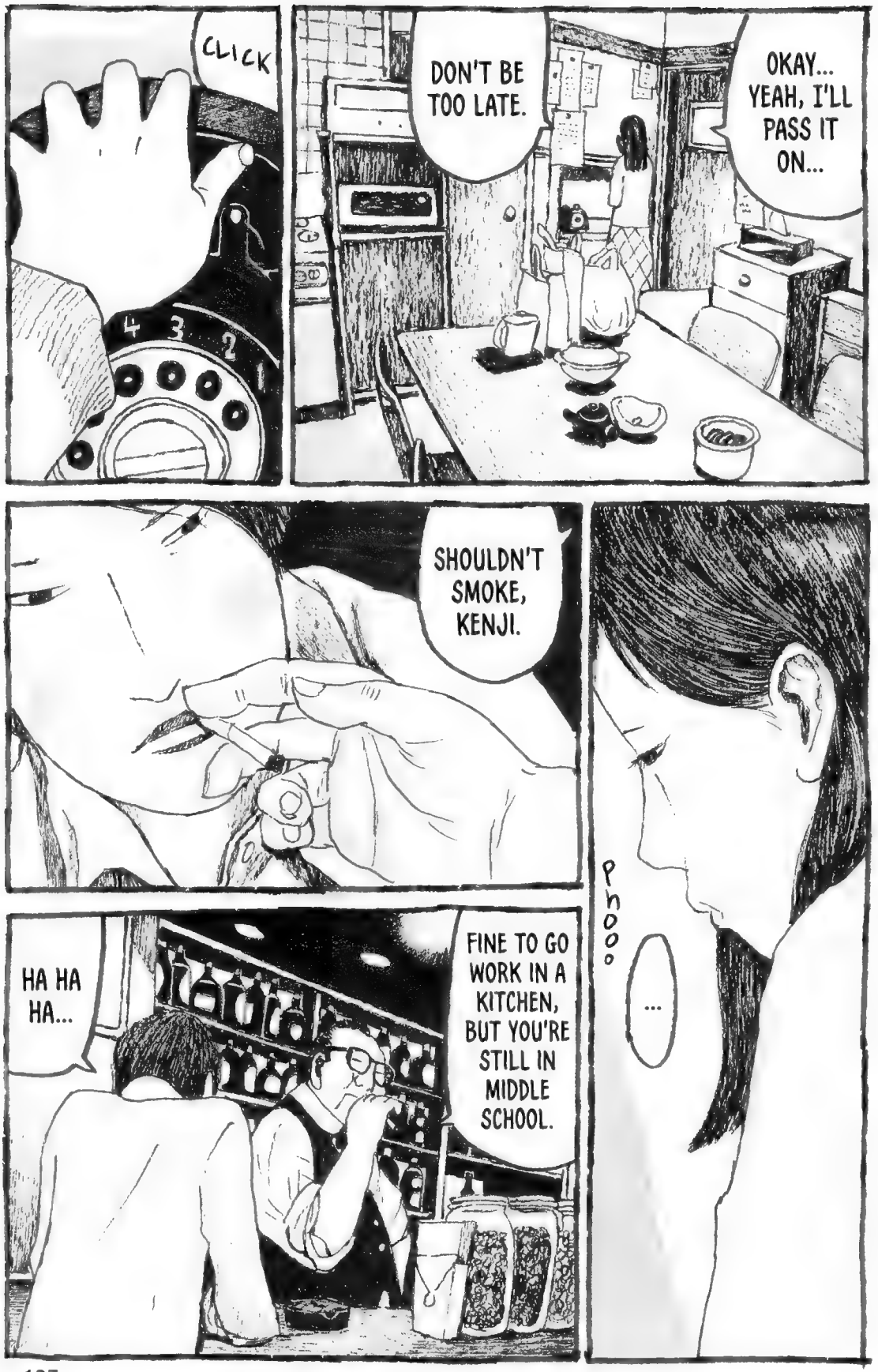

HUH?
OH, I'M SORRY, YOUNG MAN.
CLOP
KENJI?
NO ONE YOU KNOW.
WHO'S THAT LADY?

THAT JOKE AIN'T AS FUNNY AS YOU THINK!
HEH!
WHAT-EVER.
AT LEAST A CARRIER PIGEON.
SO GET A PHONE.
I GOT STUFF TA DO.
SHOWIN' UP ALL OF A SUDDEN ...
WHO YOU CALLIN' "HOBO"?
YOU LOOK LIKE A DAMN HOBO.
I GAVE YOU MONEY TO FIX YOUR FRONT TEETH.
WHAT'S THE USE...
I WANTED TO TRY AN' SAVE UP SOME MORE...
THEY SAID FIXIN' TEETH'S EXPEN-SIVE...
SPENT IT ALL ON DRINKS ?
NUH-UH...

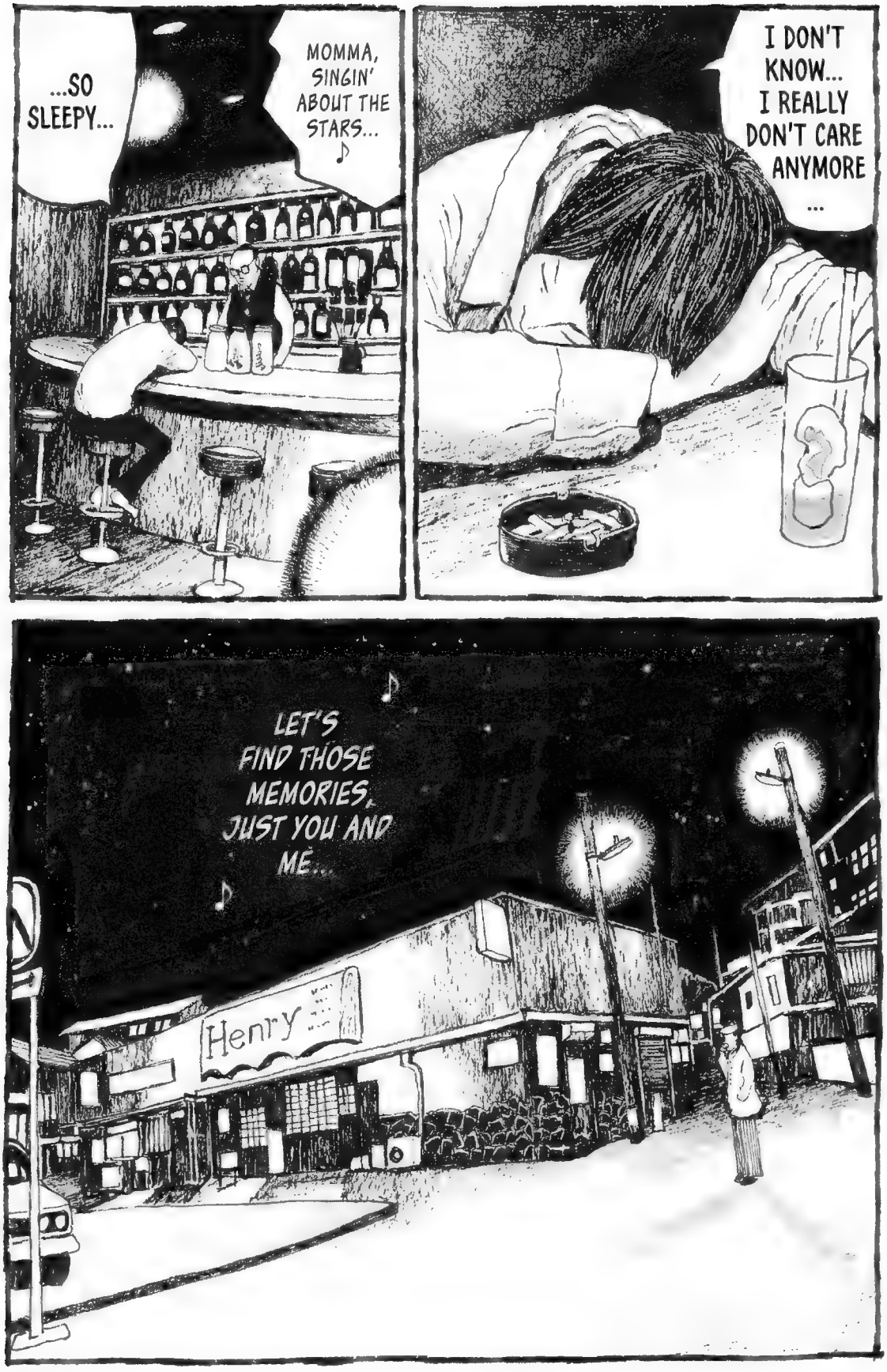
...
PIGS LIVE CLEANER.
STRAIGHTEN UP, WILL YA?
HM?
HEY, KEN-JI.
FWAA
WHOA, THERE'S A REALLY WEIRD BUG IN HERE.
SOME KINDA MUTANT?
HOW MUCH YA GOT ON YA?

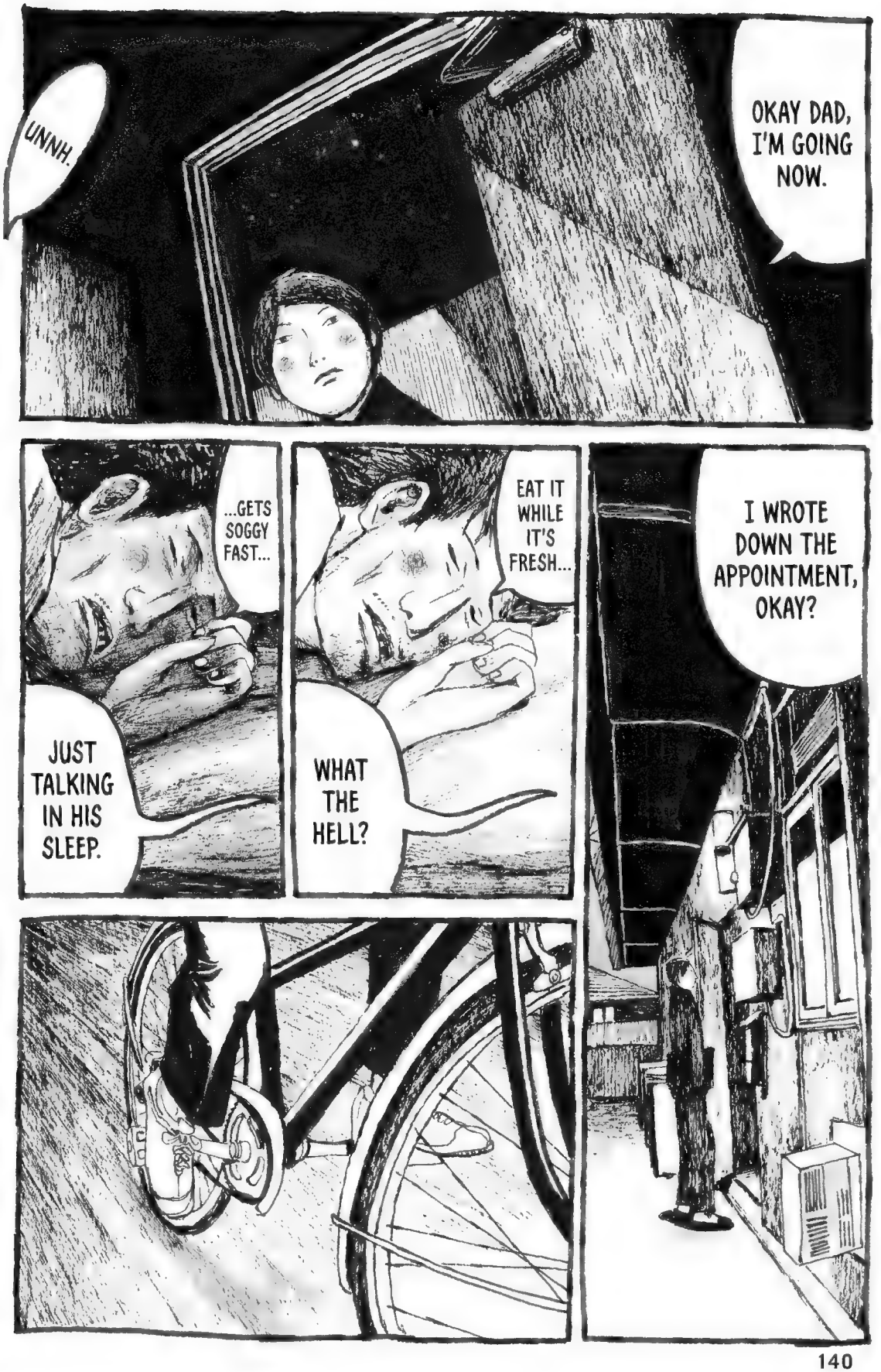
RAISE YOUR HANDS... TO THE STARRY SKY...* ♪
YOU CALLING FROM OKUBO'S PLACE?
DECO-RATE THESE FINGERS WITH STARS... ♪
BUT HE'S ALREADY TOTALLY WASTED ...
YEAH, I TOLD HIM...
THAT PRETTY LITTLE STAR, JUST FOR YOU... ♬
THEY DRAGGED ME HERE...
NAW, I'M AT HENRY'S.

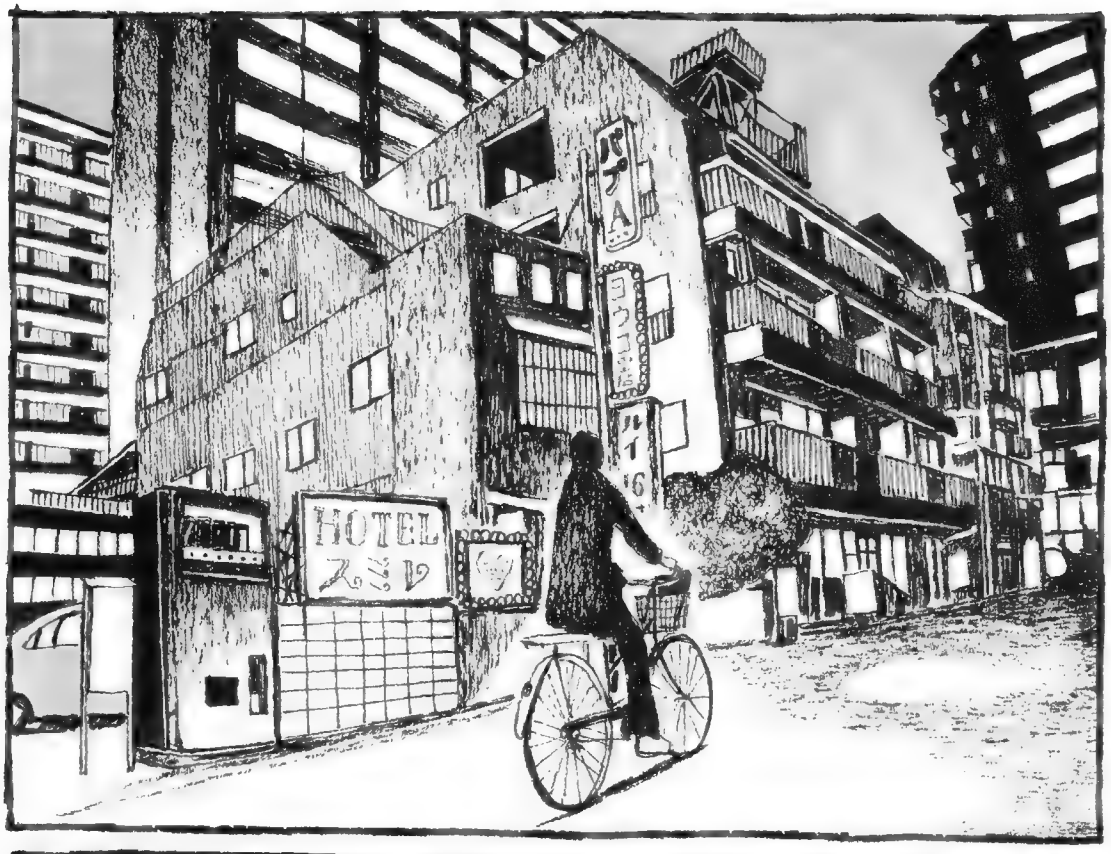
*From "Hoshizora ni Ryoute wo," a famous enka duet sung by Chiyoko Shimakura and Kunihiko Moriya, 1963

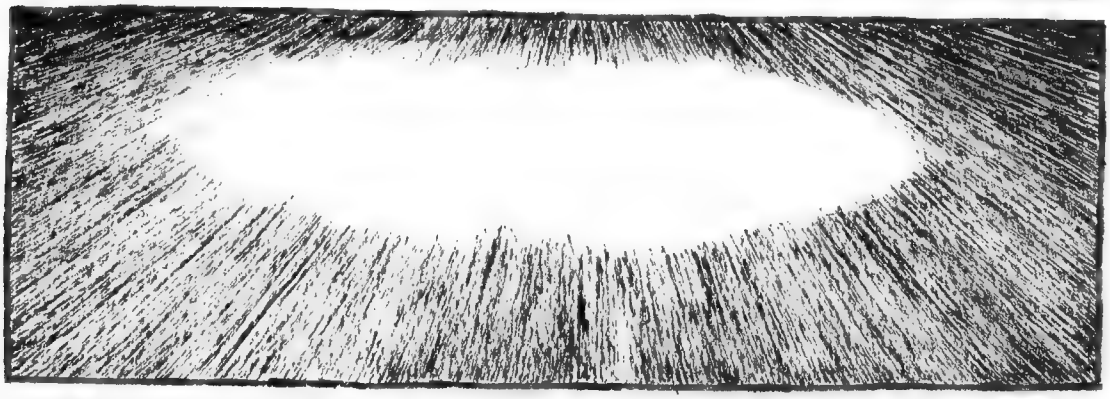

CLICK
DON'T BE TOO LATE.
OKAY... YEAH, I'LL PASS IT ON...
SHOULDN'T SMOKE, KENJI.
Phoo
...
FINE TO GO WORK IN A KITCHEN, BUT YOU'RE STILL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
HA HA HA...

STILL CAN'T FIND YOUR MOM?
THE FOLKS AT THE HOME SAID SHE'S LIVING WITH A NEW GUY IN NAGOYA ...
DECORATE THESE FINGERS WITH STARS... ♪
NO POINT IN TALKING TO *HIM*.
YOU TRY LISTENING TO THEM WHILE JUST DRINKING COLA.

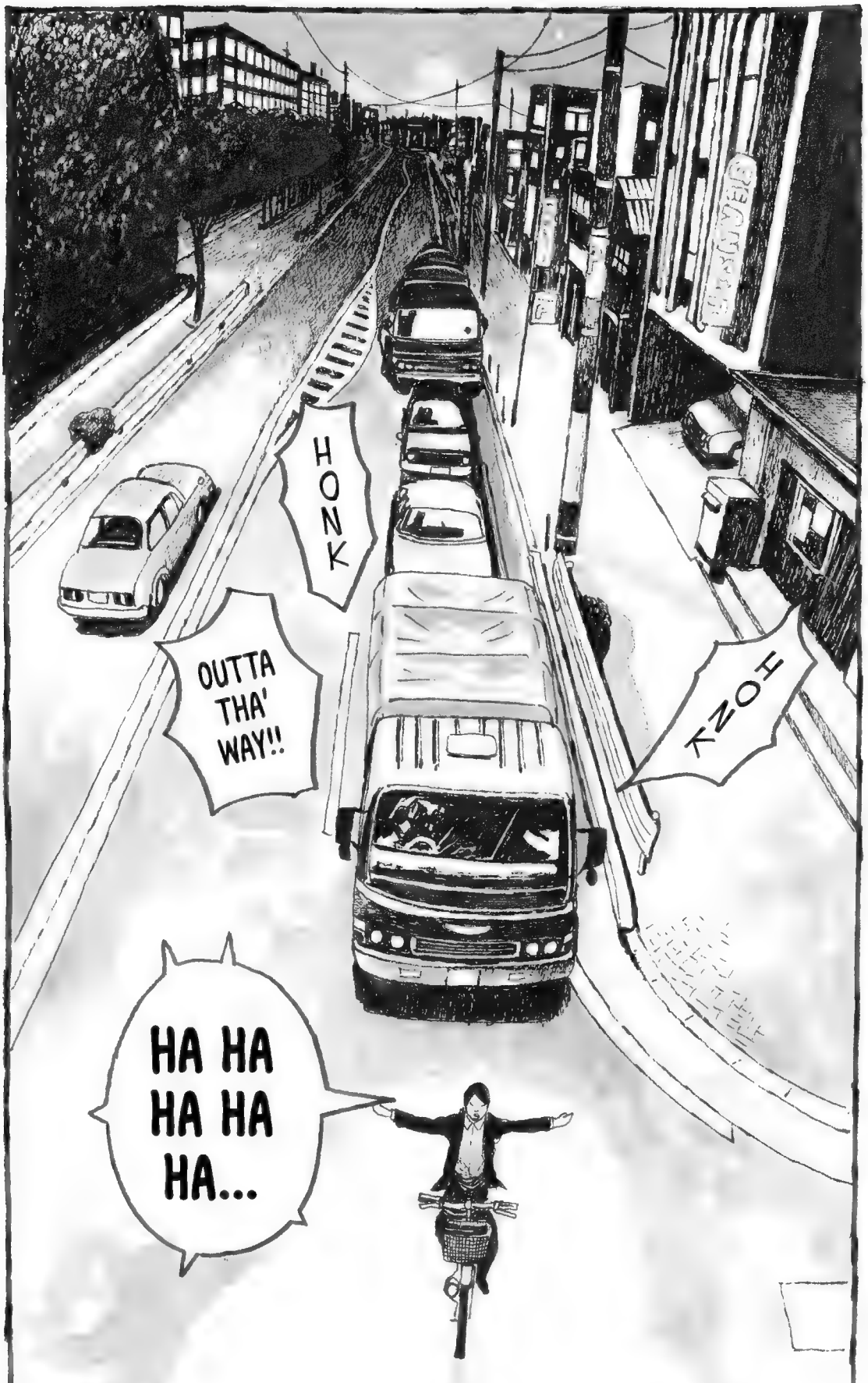

...SO SLEEPY...
MOMMA, SINGIN' ABOUT THE STARS... ♪
I DON'T KNOW... I REALLY DON'T CARE ANYMORE ...
LET'S FIND THOSE MEMORIES, JUST YOU AND ME...
♪
♪
Henry


UNNH.
OKAY DAD, I'M GOING NOW.
...GETS SOGGY FAST...
JUST TALKING IN HIS SLEEP.
EAT IT WHILE IT'S FRESH...
WHAT THE HELL?
I WROTE DOWN THE APPOINTMENT, OKAY?


HOTEL



HONK
TRYIN' TA GET KILLED ?!
WATCH WHERE YER GOIN'!!
HONK
HONK


HONK
OUTTA THA' WAY!!
HONK
HA HA HA HA HA...

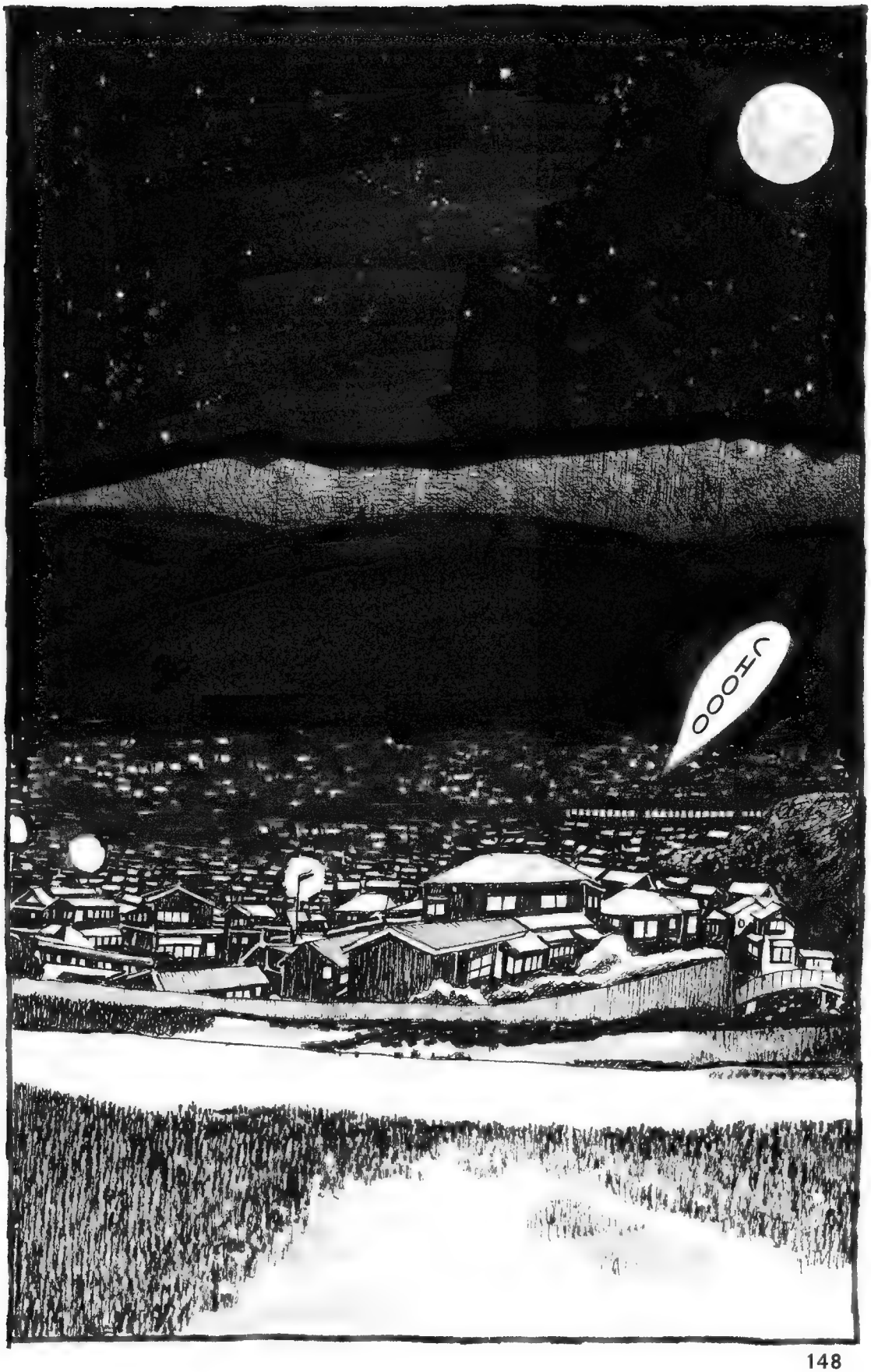
NDFF
PHOO
KNOCK
KNOCK
...
SIS...

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO STAY UP FOR ME.
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING ?
YOU'RE SO LATE, KENJI.
I'LL PUT IT OUT.
CAN'T BREATHE!!
STINKS IN HERE!
BRR.
THOUGHT YOU'D BE HUNGRY, SO I WAITED WITH SOME ONIGIRI* FOR YOU.
PHOO
...

*"Onigiri" = rice balls, often wrapped in seaweed

HASN'T CHANGED A BIT.
SO THAT IDIOT'S STILL ALIVE.
THOUGHT HE WOULDN'T MAKE IT ON HIS OWN...
HEYYY.
HE'D BE BETTER OFF DEAD ...
I DUNNO. SHE WAS JUS' THERE.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
ACTUALLY, THERE WAS A LADY THERE WHO FIT RIGHT IN.
...
...
HMM.

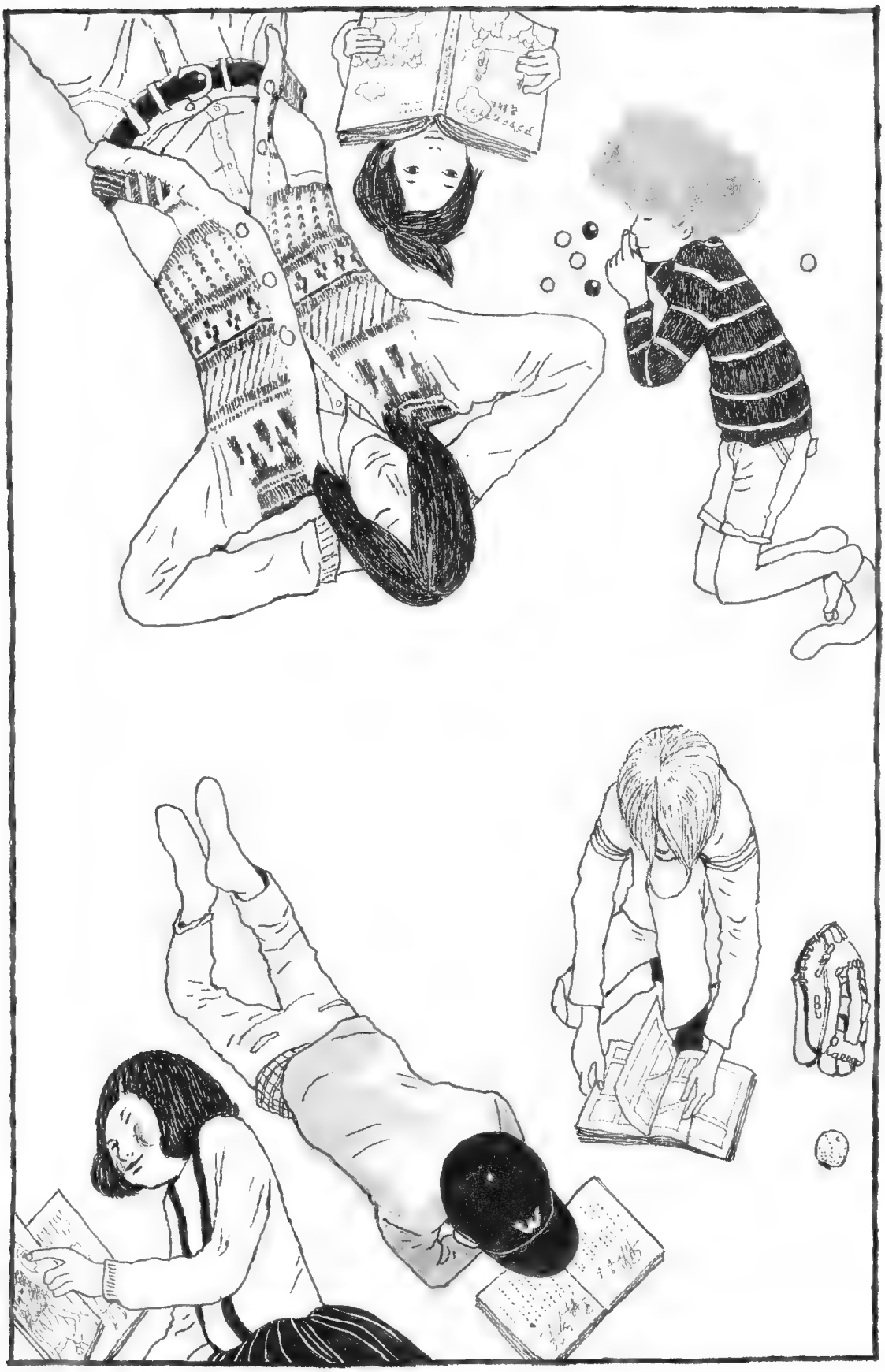
*Barrel: Star Kids Home

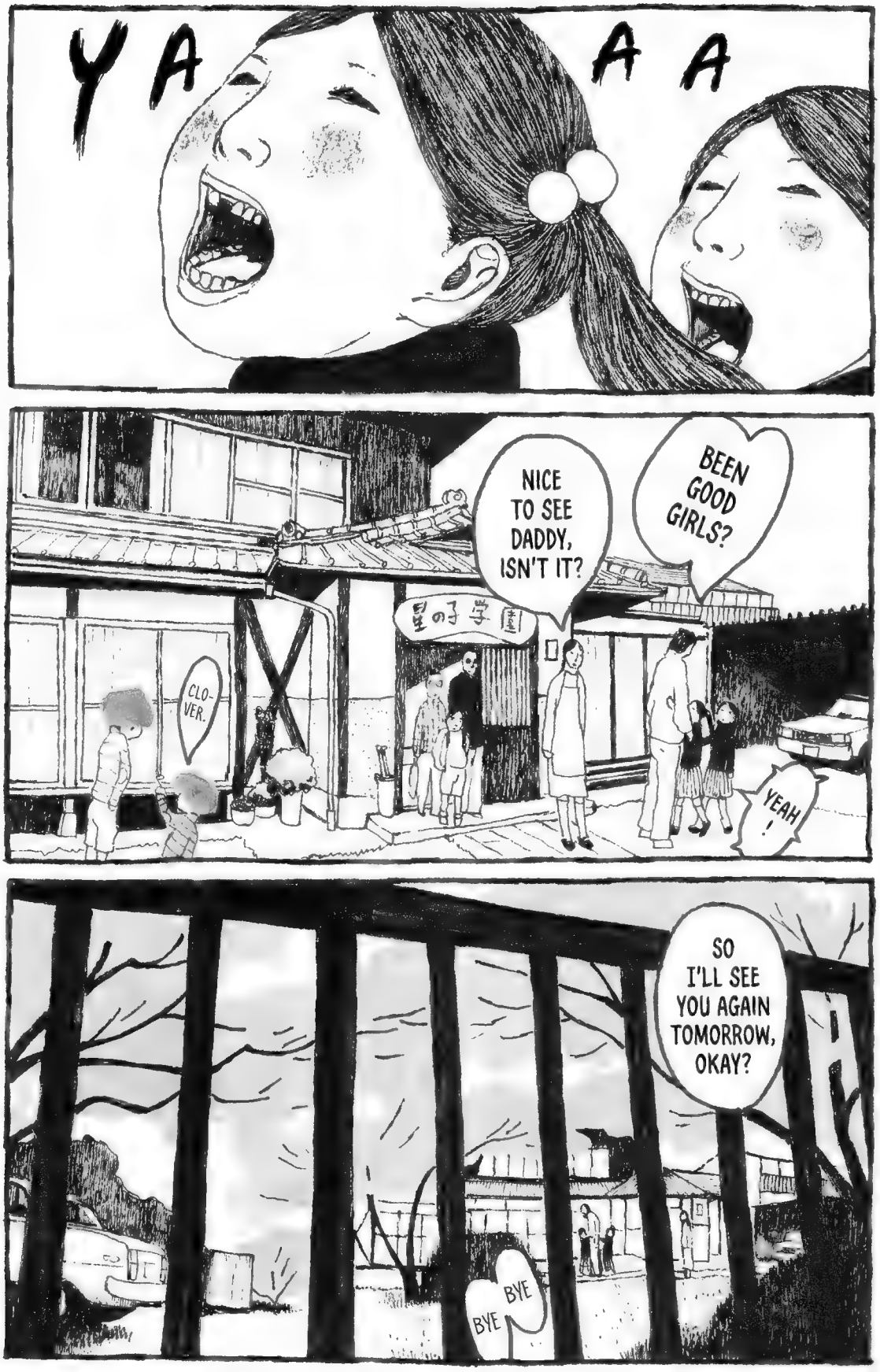

JEOOO

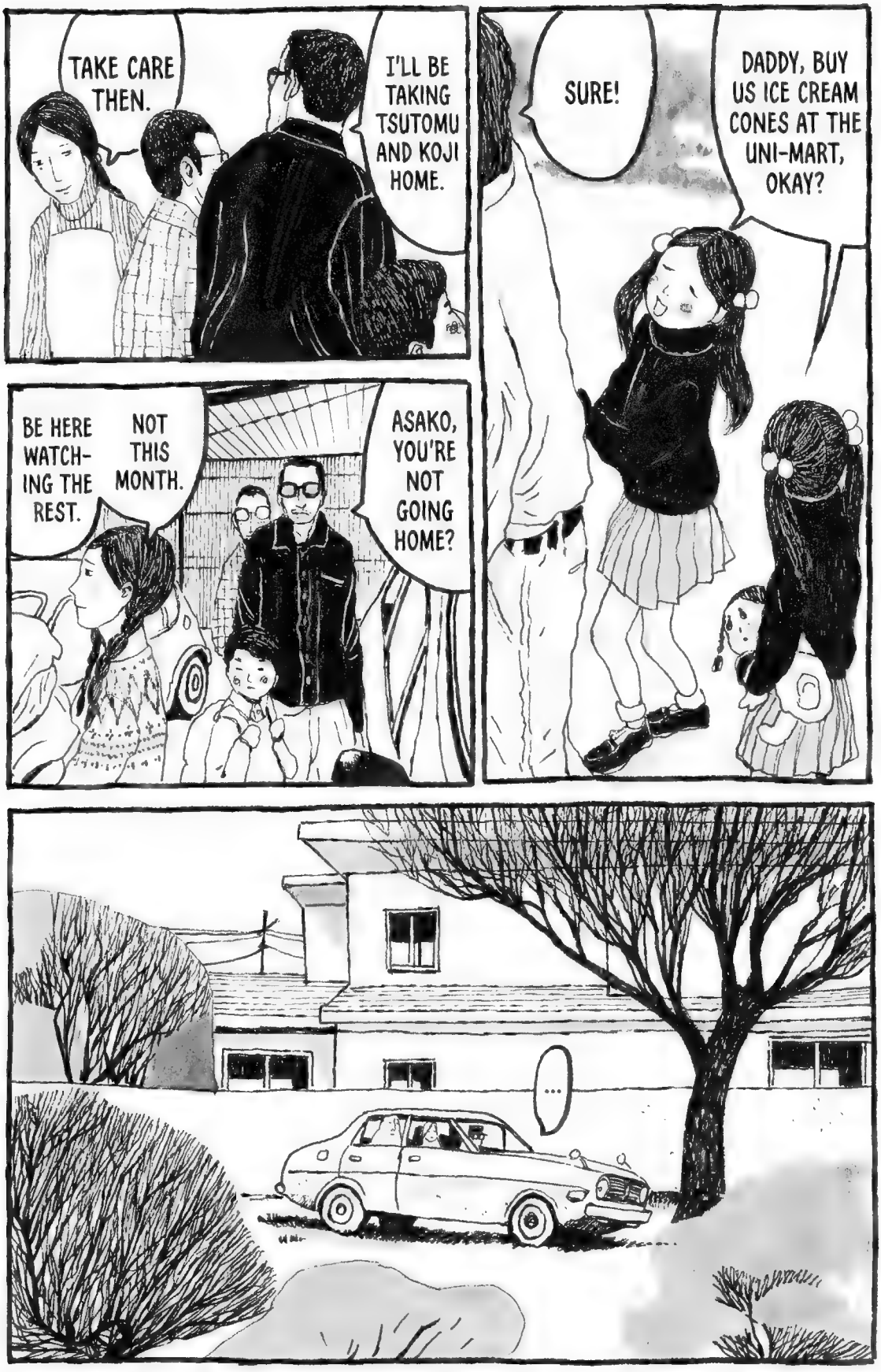
CHAPTER 5

"Whaddya do when you feel like cryin' at night?"

"Me, I sing."




YA
A A
NICE TO SEE DADDY, ISN'T IT?
BEEN GOOD GIRLS?
星の子学園
CLO-VER.
YEAH!
SO I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN TOMORROW, OKAY?
BYE
BYE
BYE


TAKE CARE THEN.
I'LL BE TAKING TSUTOMU AND KOJI HOME.
SURE!
DADDY, BUY US ICE CREAM CONES AT THE UNI-MART, OKAY?
BE HERE WATCH-ING THE REST.
NOT THIS MONTH.
ASAKO, YOU'RE NOT GOING HOME?
...

GOT QUIET AGAIN, HUH?
W
VRRRR.
CLUNK
TSK.
OKAY, YANO'S TAKING THE LAST TURN NOW!
BREAKS AWAY AND HEADS STRAIGHT FOR THE FINISH LINE!
CROWD GOES WILD!

AAAAAA
WAVING THE CHECKERED FLAG NOW!
WHA
AH!
GRUNK
YAAAAH...
HARUO YANO PLACES FIRST!!

MAKIO!!
RRRR

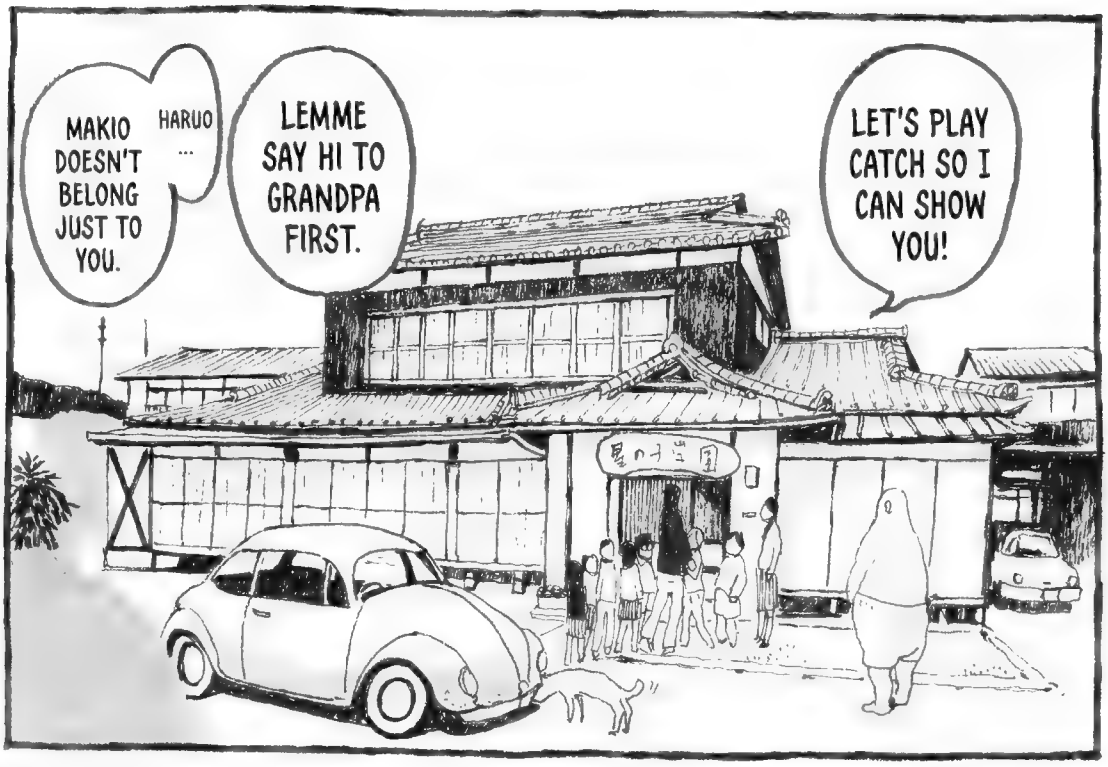
YO, HARUO.
HOUSE-MASTER'S GRANDSON !!

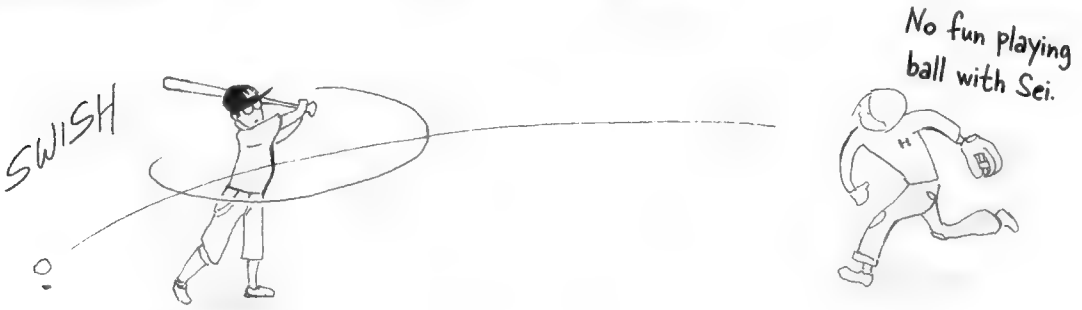
MAKIO!!
WHO?

GET OFFA THERE !!
HEY!
THUMP
MAKIO !!
yaaay
HEY, NOW *THAT'S* A NICE WELCOME!
HEY EVERYONE, IT'S MAKIO!!
MAKIO, DIDJA BRING US PRESENTS?
NOPE.
DIDJA GO TO THE MOUNTAINS AGAIN?
YUP!
...

FUN FOR THE KIDS STAYING BEHIND.
PERFECT TIMING.
HEY, YOUR HAIR'S LONGER.
TODAY'S YOUR MONTHLY VISITATION.
AHH...
HEY, LET'S PLAY CATCH!
HOW LONG YA STAYIN'?
WHERE, WHERE?
LOOK, I GOT SOME NEW SHINIES.
OH YEAH, REAL SHINY.
SEE!
WHO KNOWS ...
GOT A BOY-FRIEND?
YOU LOOK GREAT, ASAKO.

星の子学園
LET'S ROLL, SHOSUKE!
YA.
JUN, I THOUGHT YOU WERE GONNA SEE YOUR MOM IN THE HOSPITAL!
OH YEAH. I'M GIVIN' MY MOM SOME CLOVERS.
GET GOIN'!
WET'S WOLL.
UH-HUH ...
MAKIO, I LEARNED TO THROW A CURVE!
HARUO, YOU GET TO SEE YOUR MOM NEXT BREAK, RIGHT?


MAKIO DOESN'T BELONG JUST TO YOU.
HARUO ...
LEMME SAY HI TO GRANDPA FIRST.
LET'S PLAY CATCH SO I CAN SHOW YOU!


SWISH
No fun playing ball with Sei.

CAN BARELY LIFT A FINGER NOW.

SPEND MY DAYS IN THE SUN, LISTENING TO THE KIDS.
LETTING ADACHI AND MITSUKO HANDLE EVERY-THING.
NOT MANY KIDS NOW, SO THEY JUST COME WHEN WE'RE BUSY.
NO.
TAKADA AND YOSHINO QUIT?
THEIR VOICES CHEER ME UP.
IT BOTHERS ME WHEN THEY MOUTH OFF, BUT...
WE HAVE AN OPEN HOUSE COMING UP. CAN YOU HELP OUT?
SO, MAKIO ...
SURE.
HA HA...

HMM, I HAVEN'T HEARD ANY-THING...
BY THE WAY, CAN'T HARUO'S MOM COME VISIT NEXT BREAK?
WHY D'YA ASK?
I THINK SO, BUT...
YA DON'T SAY...
I JUST HAD A FEELING ...

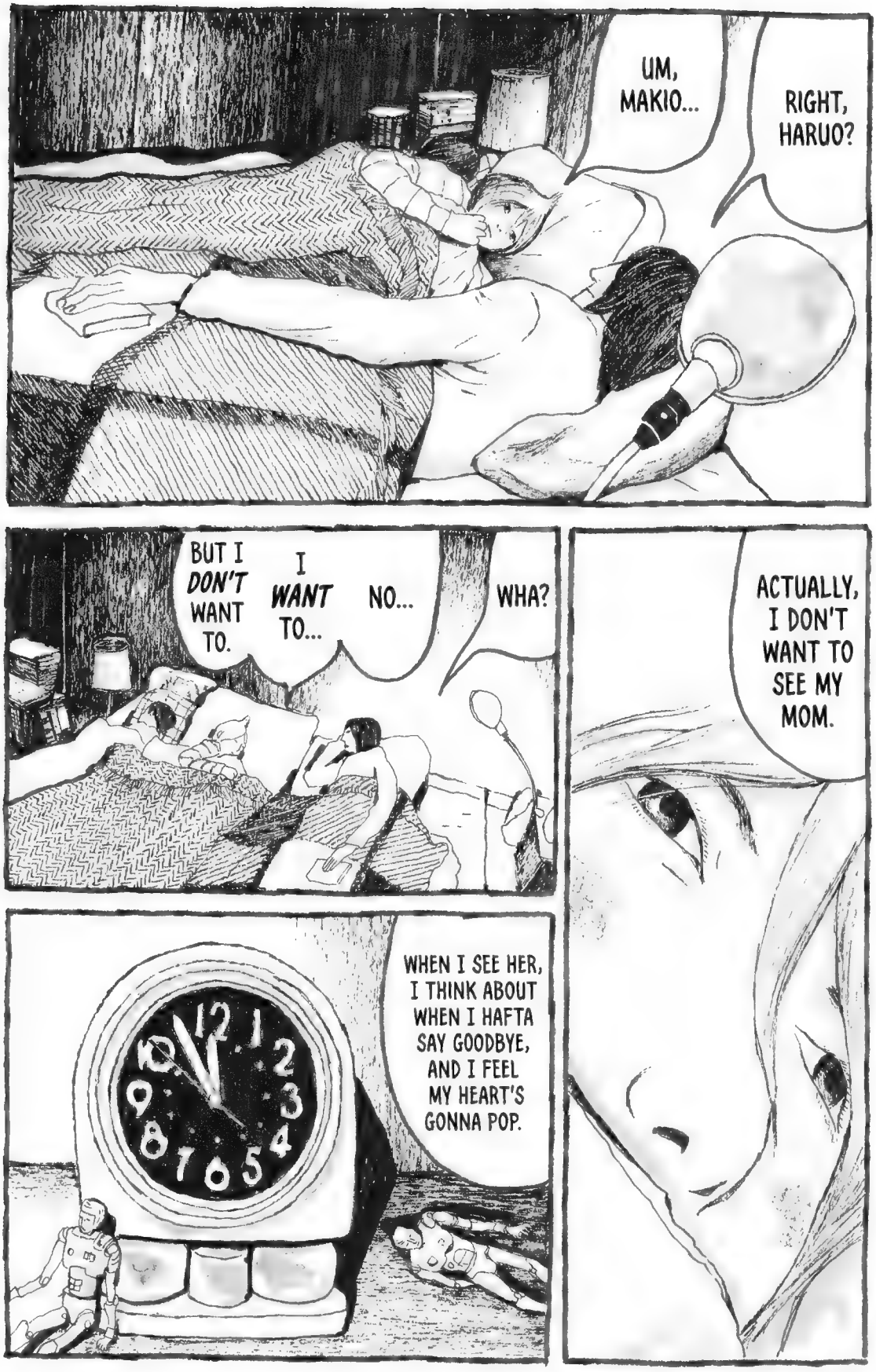
HEY, CAN MAKIO SLEEP IN OUR ROOM TONIGHT?
NO.
HARUO, GO UPSTAIRS ALREADY.
MAKIO NEEDS TO GET SOME REST.
NO.
PLEASE! I CAN MAKE HIM A BED IN JUN'S SPOT!
THAT'S MOUNT YARI-GAOKA.
NO.
GOO
THOSE OTHER KIDS GET TO SLEEP WITH THEIR PARENTS TONIGHT!!
IS THIS MOUNT TANZAWA?
WOW.

YOU GOTTA HAVE GUTS TO GO UP THERE IN WINTER.
YUP.
GAA
MOUNT YARIGAOKA IS ON THE BORDER OF NAGANO AND TOYAMA, RIGHT?
SEI'LL GET INTO KYOTO U. JUS' LIKE MAKIO.
CHOMP
REALLY ?
SEI'S A BOOK-WORM.
CHIAKI'S EATING THE PHOTO!
SEI, YOU KNOW EVERY-THING, DON'T YOU?
THEY CALL THOSE CLIMBERS "ALPINISTS," RIGHT?
NO!!
I SAID NO AND I MEAN ...
MEANY !!
WHY NOT?!

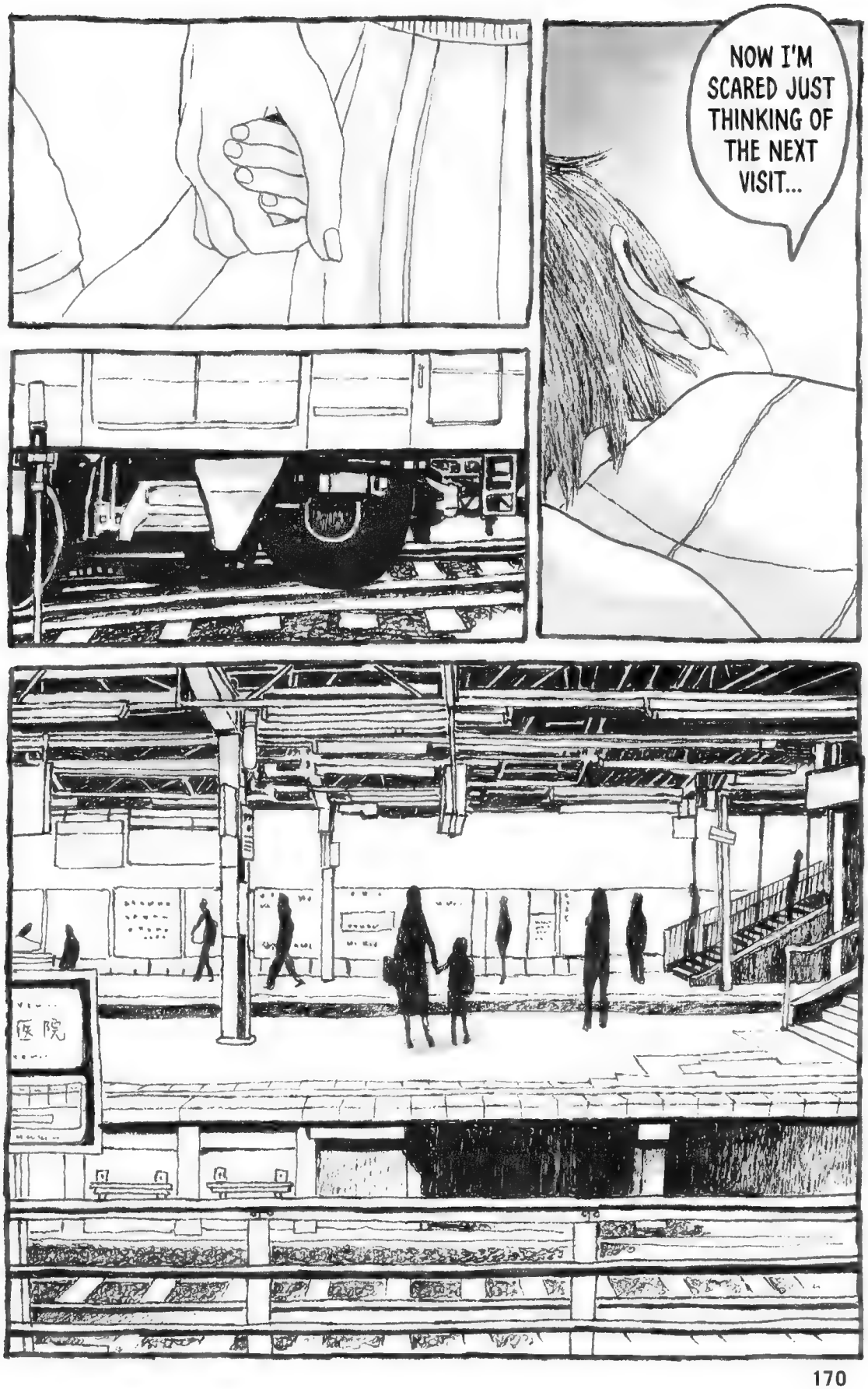
YESSS !!
NO PROBLEM, MR. ADA-CHI. I'LL SLEEP IN THE KIDS' ROOM.
FINE THEN.
ALWAYS HARUO.
NOT FAIR ...
GETTIN' TOO BIG FOR HIS BRITCHES.
HEH HEH HEH
NO PROBLEM.
WATCH OUT, MAKIO.
HEH HEH
JUST LISTEN TO YOURSELF, HARUO!
HEY, LEMME SEE THE MOUNTAIN PICTURES. COOL!
OUCH.
Row row row your boat...

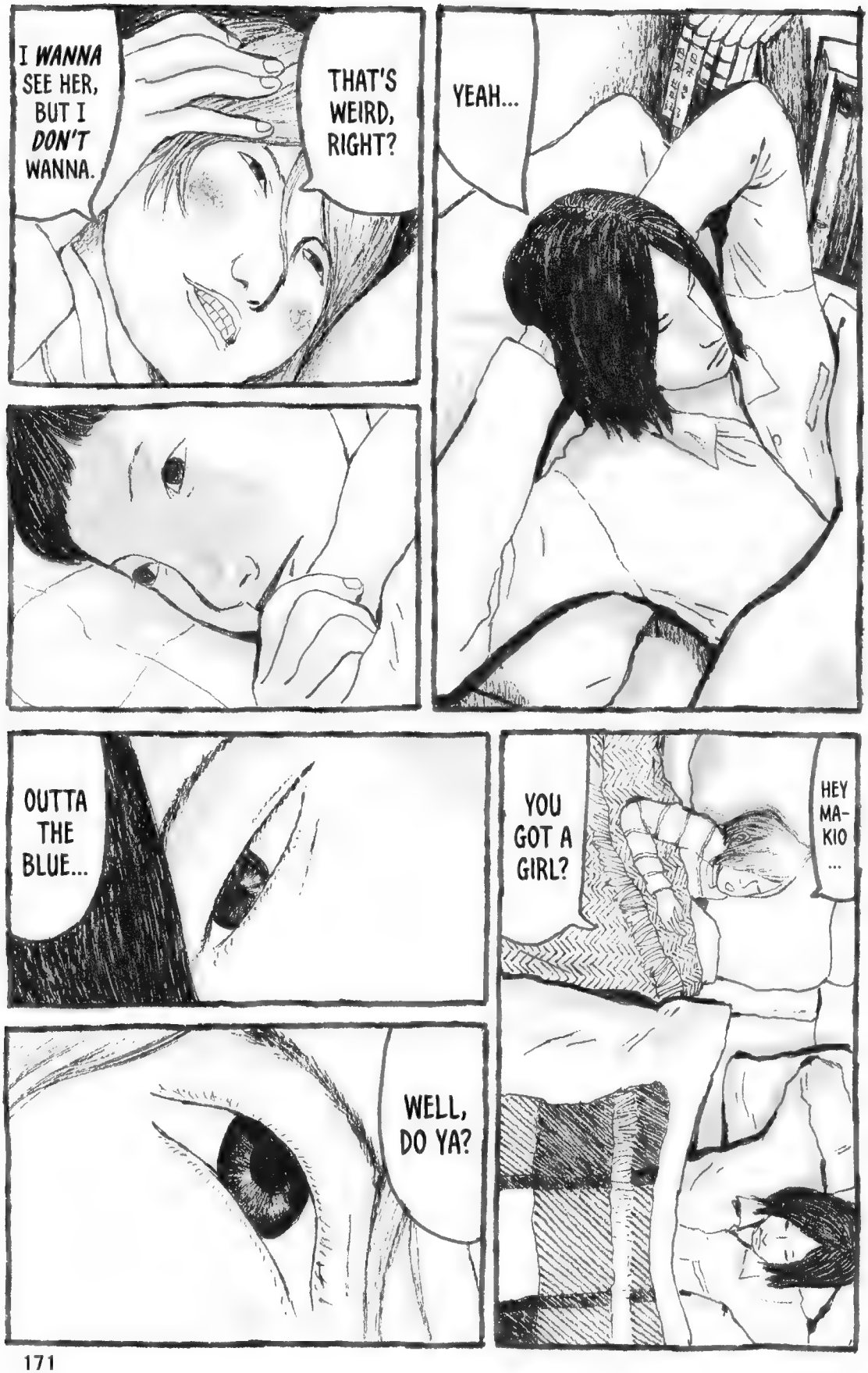
"NEXT TIME, I'LL GOUGE YOUR EYES OUT"...
...SO I KICKED THEIR BUTTS AND SAID...
CRAZY...
GONNA GET HURT IF YOU KEEP DISHIN' IT OUT LIKE THAT...
KIDS OUTSIDE ARE ALL DORKS.
NO PROBLEM.
HE'S ALWAYS ASLEEP, GRINDING HIS TEETH.
HMPH, HE WON'T WAKE UP.
YOU'LL WAKE SEI.
SHHH.

SMELLS GOOD.
NIVEA.
WHATCHA GOT THERE, HARUO?
YEAH.
YOUR MOM GET IT FOR YOU?
SURE DOES.
...
I'M GONNA TELL JUN AND THE OTHERS TOMMOROW.
YOU'LL SEE HER SOON. ON YOUR NEXT BREAK, RIGHT?
THEY'LL BE SO JEALOUS THAT I'M YOUR FAVORITE.

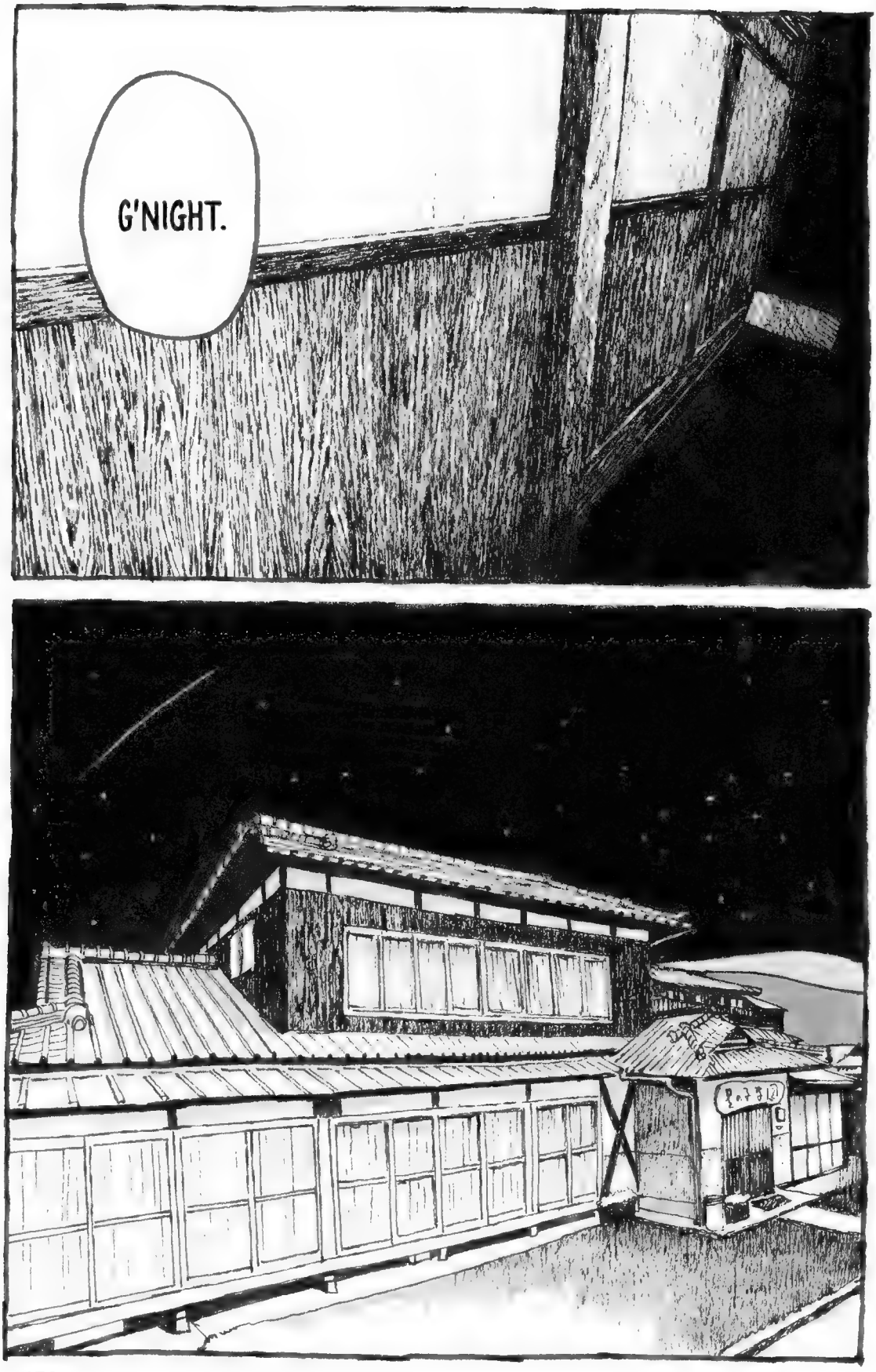

UM, MAKIO...
RIGHT, HARUO?
BUT I *DON'T* WANT TO.
I *WANT* TO...
NO...
WHA?
ACTUALLY, I DON'T WANT TO SEE MY MOM.
WHEN I SEE HER, I THINK ABOUT WHEN I HAFTA SAY GOODBYE, AND I FEEL MY HEART'S GONNA POP.

AT FIRST, I USED TO DREAM ABOUT HER NEXT VISIT EVERY DAY...
BUT THERE'S ONLY THREE VISITS A YEAR, RIGHT?
...
AND HALFWAY THROUGH THAT'S ALL I CAN THINK OF, Y'KNOW?


NOW I'M SCARED JUST THINKING OF THE NEXT VISIT...
医院


I WANNA SEE HER, BUT I DON'T WANNA.
THAT'S WEIRD, RIGHT?
YEAH...
OUTTA THE BLUE...
WELL, DO YA?
YOU GOT A GIRL?
HEY MA-KIO ...

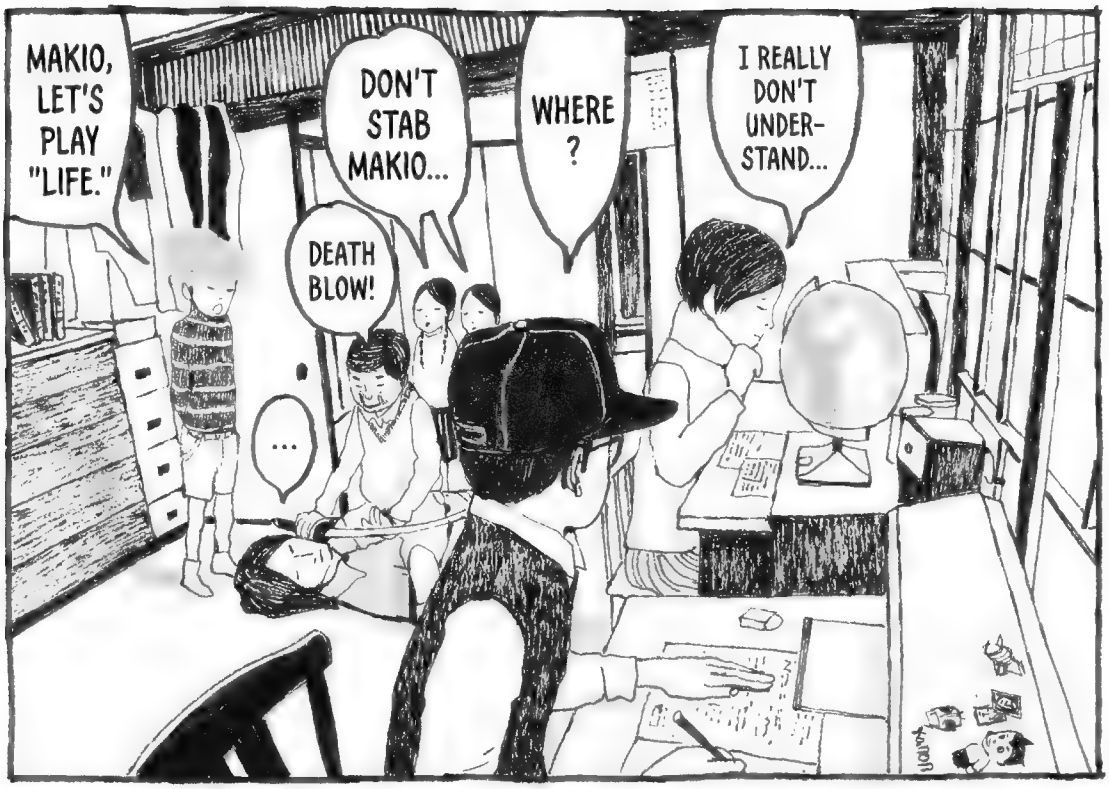
WELL... I THINK SHE IS ANYWAY.
Haruo
Jonsuke
Sei
INTRO-DUCE ME NEXT TIME, OKAY?
SHE PRETTY ?
THERE'S ONE GIRL I'M GOING WITH.
YEAH, I GUESS.
YEAH.
LIGHTS OUT, BUDDY.
YEAH, SURE, NEXT TIME.
G'NIGHT, MAKIO.

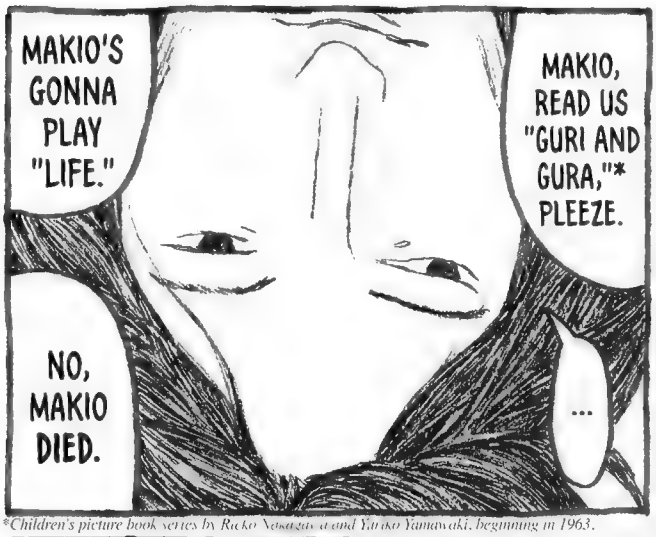

G'NIGHT.

NICE ROSY CHEEKS NOW!
MY MOM WAS REALLY GOOD!

MAKIO, READ US A STORY, PLEEZE.
AND MAMA CUT YOUR NAILS TOO!
I THINK IT WAS 'CAUSE OF ALL THE CLOVERS I PICKED.
SH—ZS-

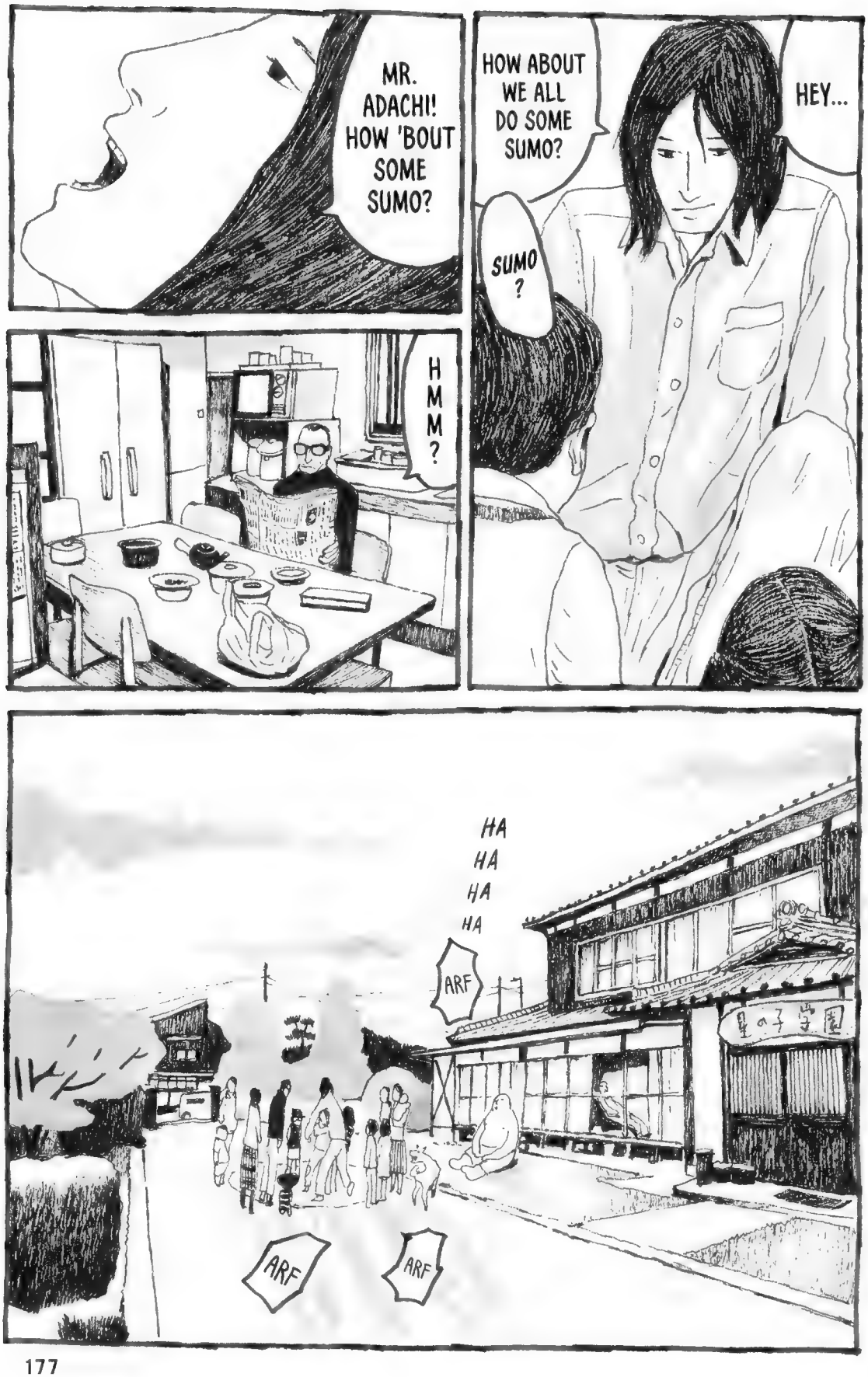
QUIT IT, KOJI!
SHHTAAB!
ARGH, GOT ME...





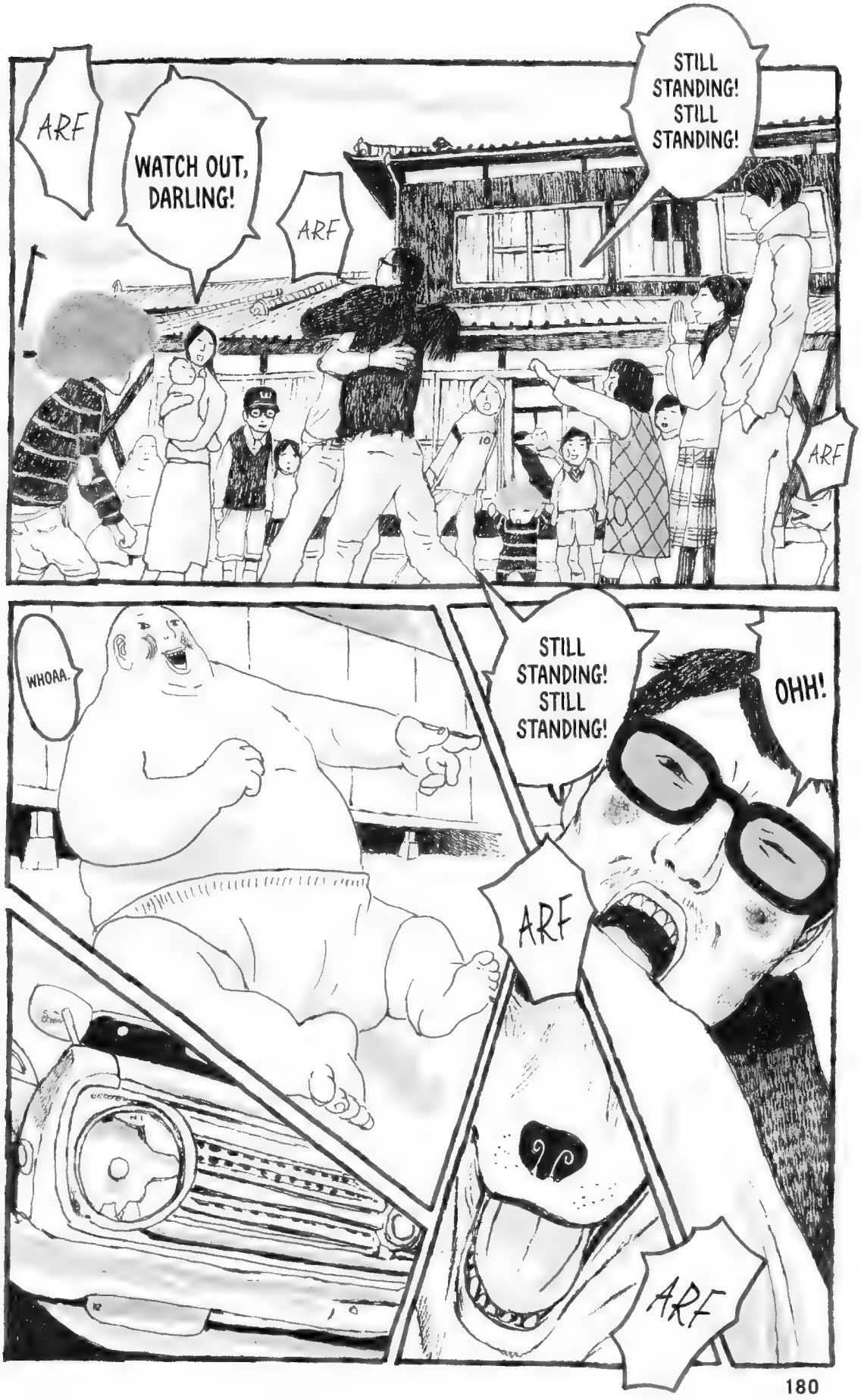
*Children's picture book series by Rieko Nakagawa and Yuriko Yamawaki, beginning in 1963.

KENJI! BEEN A WHILE...
GOOD AFTER-NOON.
BAH.
YOU'VE GROWN...
ROW ROW ROW YOUR BOAT... GENTLY DOWN THE STREAM...


MR. ADACHI! HOW 'BOUT SOME SUMO?
HEY...
HOW ABOUT WE ALL DO SOME SUMO?
SUMO ?
HMM?
HA HA HA HA
ARF
ARF
ARF
星の子学園

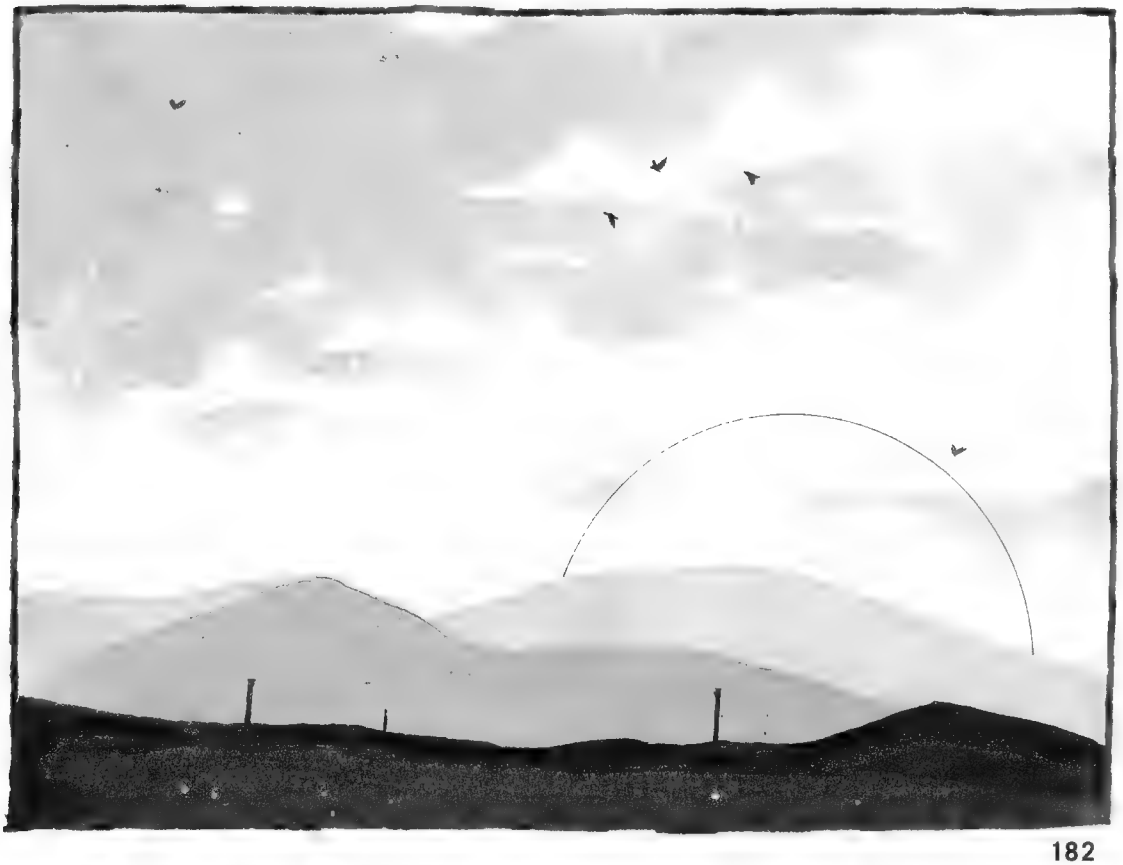
NNGHH.
SEE, GONNA HAFTA PUSH HARDER!
ARF
CRUMP
GRAK.
BOYS... PATHETIC.
HAHAHA. OF COURSE!
NOT FAIR! YOU'RE A GROWN-UP, BUT YOU'RE DOING IT FOR REAL!
ARF
HOW 'BOUT IT, MR. ADACHI?
HMM ...

NO WAY THAT OLD FART WINS.
"JUST LIKE RIDING A BIKE," RIGHT?
YOU'RE BRAG-GING!
DON'T MEAN TO BRAG, BUT IN HIGH SCHOOL I WAS THE BEST JUDOKA IN THE COUNTY!
ARF
HERE WE GO....
HA HA HA HA
WHUD
STILL STAND-ING!
MMPPHH.


ARF
WATCH OUT, DARLING!
ARF
STILL STANDING! STILL STANDING!
ARF
WHOAA.
STILL STANDING! STILL STANDING!
OHH!
ARF
ARF

GO!
HEY, GOOD FIGHT!
ARF
ARF
GOO
GOO
HA
STILL STANDING! STILL STANDING!
HA
HA

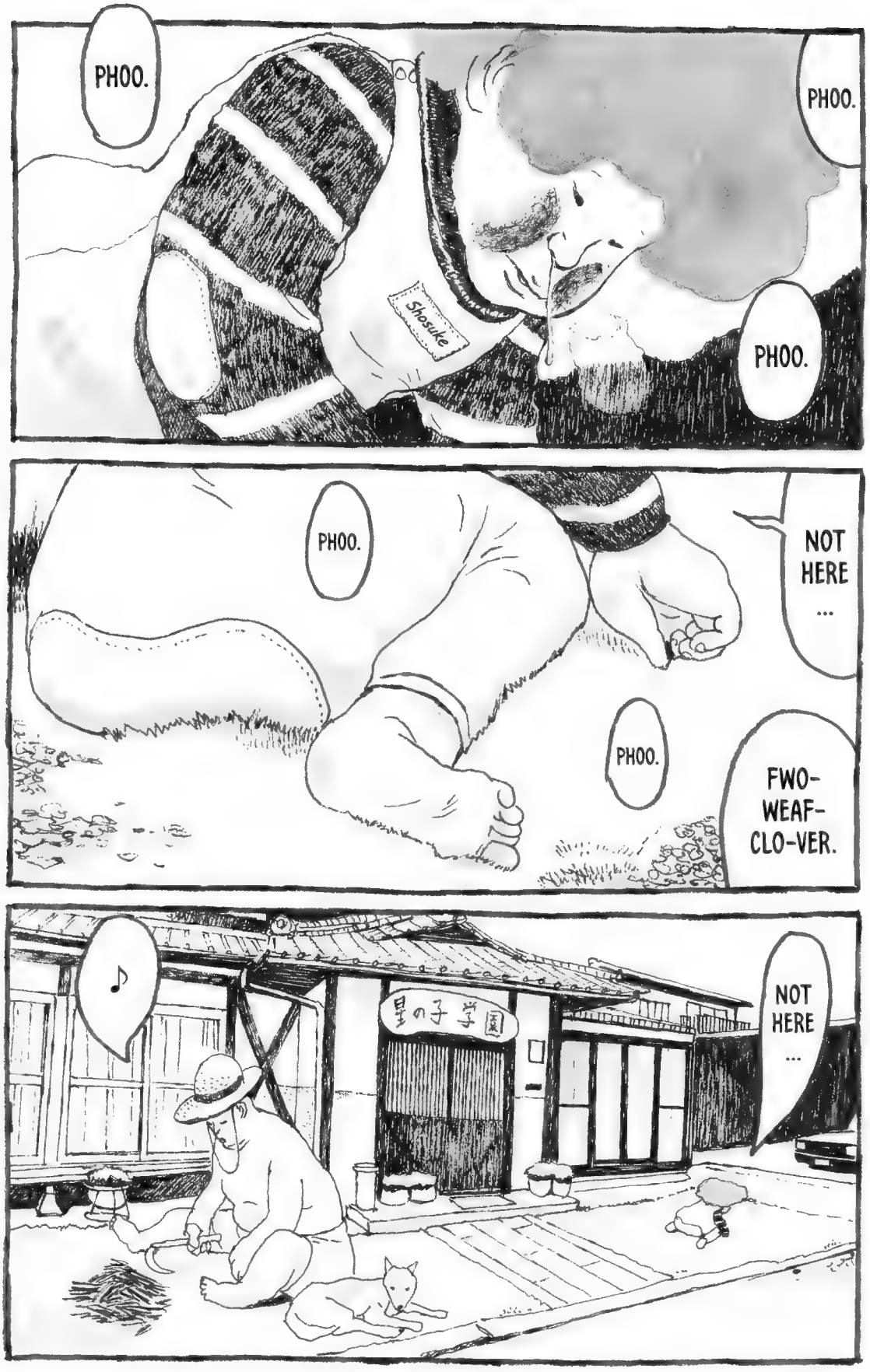
GO!
GO!
ARF
STILL
STANDING!
STILL
STANDING!
HA
HA
HA
HA
ARF
ARF



CHAPTER 6

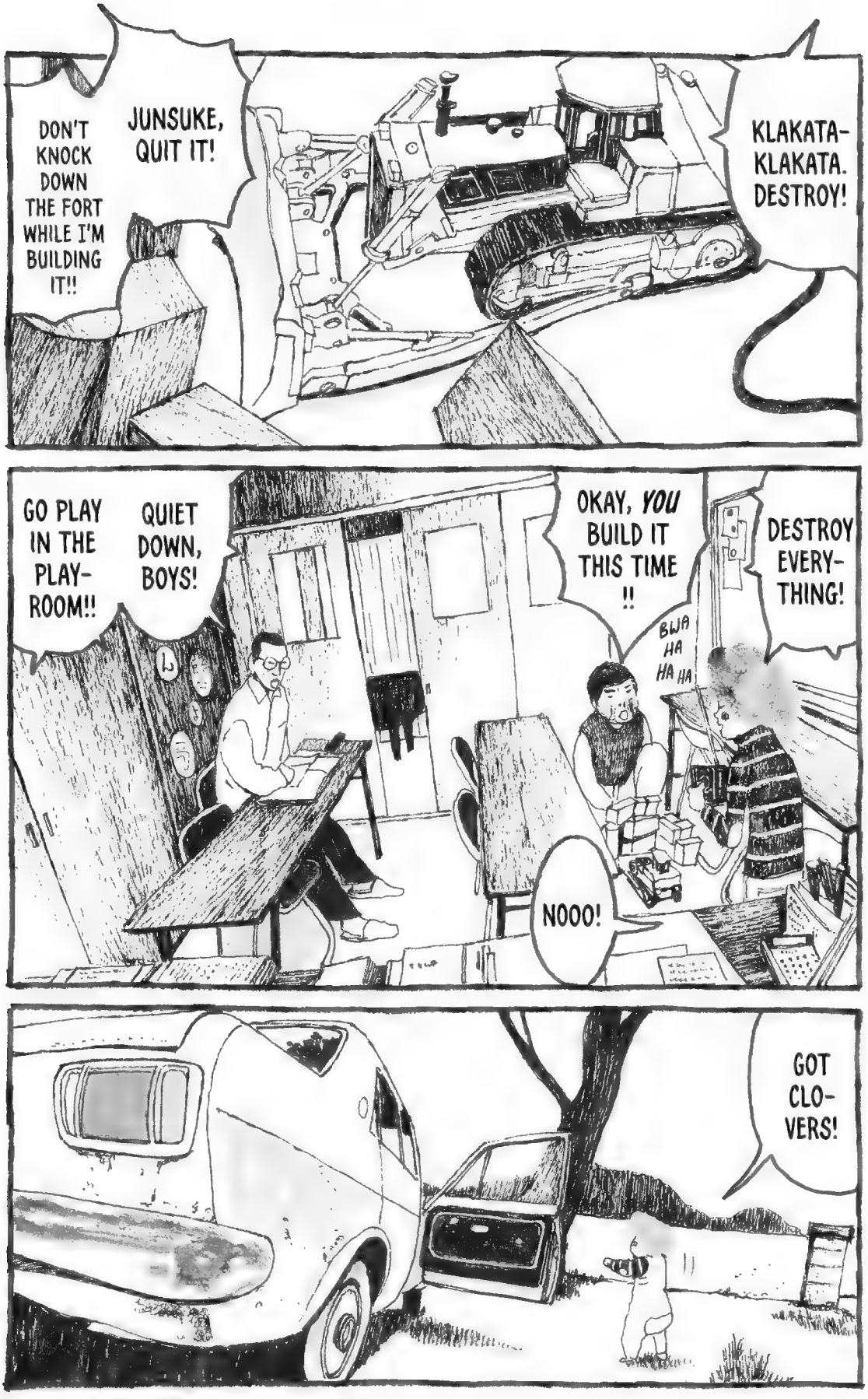
"Whaddya think's for dinner tonight?"

"Miss Mitsuko said fritters."


PHOO.
PHOO.
Shosuke
PHOO.
PHOO.
NOT HERE ...
PHOO.
FWO-WEAF-CLO-VER.
♪
星の子学園
NOT HERE ...

FIND ANY?
FWO-WEAF-CLO-VER.
OOHH
FUMBLE FUMBLE
TARO ...
WHEERE?
YEAH...
GOT LOTS.

GOT CLO-VERS!
HEY.
I FOUND 'EM. I FOUND 'EM, RIGHT?
UUHH
TARO found 'em.
HUH? WON'T OPEN.


DON'T KNOCK DOWN THE FORT WHILE I'M BUILDING IT!!
JUNSUKE, QUIT IT!
KLAKATA-KLAKATA. DESTROY!
GO PLAY IN THE PLAY-ROOM!!
QUIET DOWN, BOYS!
OKAY, YOU BUILD IT THIS TIME !!
BWA HA HA HA
DESTROY EVERY-THING!
NOOO!
GOT CLO-VERS!

ZZZZ
GOO...
PHOO.
PHOO.
SLEEP-
ING...
ZZZ
SHNORR
HARUO
SLEEP-
ING...

HA HA HA.
GRIN
WHO CARES!
DON'T LET MISS MITSUKO FIND OUT.
LIKE SO...
HEAVY MAKEUP IS THE NEW STYLE!
LIKE A BAR HOST-ESS!
KIKO, THAT'S TOO MUCH ...
WHAT'S THIS ONE?
NOT HERE...
CLO-VERS.

SEI, YOUR ACCENT HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL, Y'KNOW?
PLAK
THAT ON PUR-POSE?
YEAH, YOU STILL TALK LIKE A YOKO-HAMA KID.
TERRIBLE AT PUZ-ZLES...
AFTER THREE MONTHS, YOU SHOULD BE TALKIN' LIKE US.
...
PLOK
PLOK
HEEHEE
TEEHEE
PLOK
PLOK

"I AM VERY GOOD AT RUNNING."
HE'D SAY, "GOOD DAY, MY NAME IS HARUO."
HIS HAIR WAS DARKER TOO.
HARUO'S TOKYO ACCENT WAS SO CUTE WHEN HE FIRST GOT HERE.
WHEN I GROW UP I'M GOING TO PITCH FOR THE GIANTS.
AND... AND... I LIKE BASEBALL.
...AND STUFF LIKE THAT.
DIDN'T THINK HE'D GET SO WILD.
LIKE A KID ON A TV COMMER-CIAL.
WOW.
GOO
PLOK
PLAK

SEI, DO THEY REALLY CALL HIM "WHITE" AT SCHOOL?
WHERE'S THIS ONE GO?
YES.
TRY OVER HERE.
WHITE. COOL.
IT'S TEAS-ING.
CAN'T YOU TELL?
YA THINK ?
HA HA...
WHAT'S SO FUNNY ?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HARUO.
POK ...
YEAH!
WORRY ABOUT THE KIDS THAT MESS WITH HIM.
YEAH?

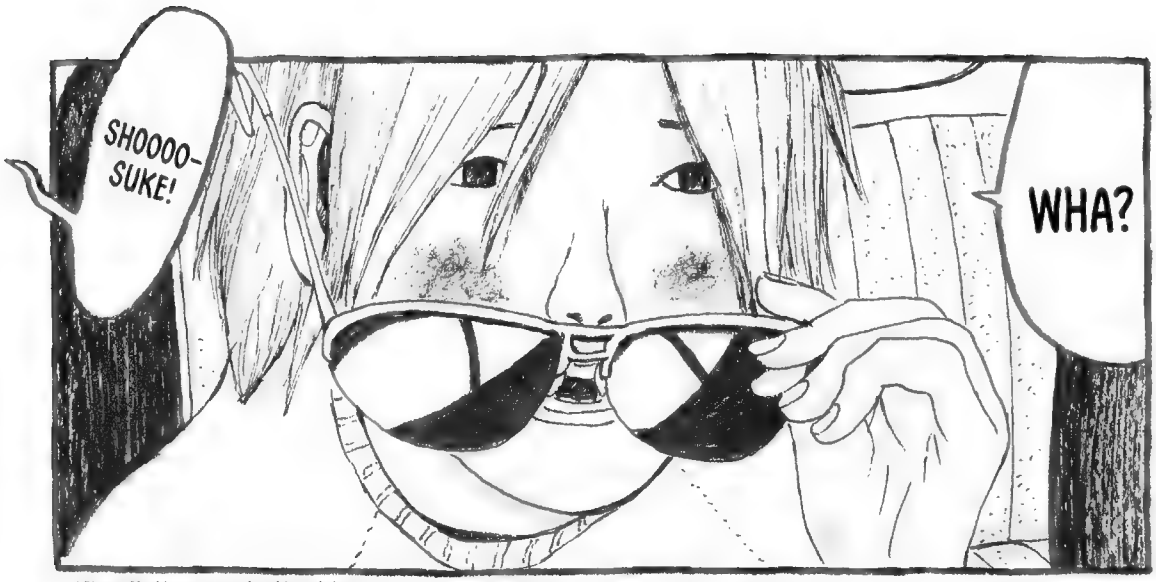
HE'LL NEVER GET A NORMAL JOB WHEN HE'S OLDER.
HAHA ...
HAVE YA SEEN SHOSUKE ?
HUH ?
I DUNNO...
PROB'LY LOOKIN' FOR CLOVERS IN THE GARDEN AGAIN.
BUT HE WASN'T...

LOOK, IT'S SHO, FROM STAR KIDS HOME.
CLO-VERS.
WELL, IF IT ISN'T LITTLE SHO!
...BUT WHAT'RE YA DOIN'...
huh?
YOU'RE GETTIN' BIG! HOW OLD ARE YA NOW?
I FOUND 'EM.
...WALKIN' ALL ALONE HERE...
I FOUND 'EM.

MUST'VE GONE OUT-SIDE...
NOT IN THE BATH-ROOM...

SHOOO-SUKE!
HEYYYY!

HEYYYY!
SHOOOO-SUKE!
WHERE ARE YA?!
UNH



*Sign = Hachiman: a popular shinto shrine

IT AIN'T MY FAULT!!
Don't fight, guys.
IT'S 'CAUSE YOU ALWAYS MAKE HIM CRY!!
YEAH, BUT...
MEGUMU, DON'T BOTHER SEARCHING THERE...
...
AN' THEN HE DISAP-PEARED.
TOOK MY EYES OFF HIM FOR A SEC...

DON'T WORRY. WE'LL FIND HIM.
ARE YA SURE HE'S OKAY?
HE DIDN'T GET HIT BY A CAR, DID HE?
PANT
PANT
PANT
AIN'T IN HERE.
NOT HERE...
W

BOW WOW
HUFF
GIGGLE
HUFF
GIGGLE
BOW WOW
BOW WOW

BUT I LOOKED ALL OVER THE ROAD BY THE HOME!!
THEY'LL PROB'LY FIND HIM BEFORE WE GET BACK.
NO WAY SHO COULD GET THIS FAR, JUN.
TOBACCO
OKAY, OKAY, WE'LL GO LOOK.
BUT NO MORE CRYIN'.
HE'S PROB'LY ALL ALONE AN' SCARED AN' CRYIN'!!
I SEE...
SEARCHED ALL OVER THE HOUSE.
SHOOOO-SUKE!
GONNA BE DARK SOON.

LET'S GET THE YOUTH BRIGADE ON IT.
NO.
SHOULD WE CALL THE POLICE?

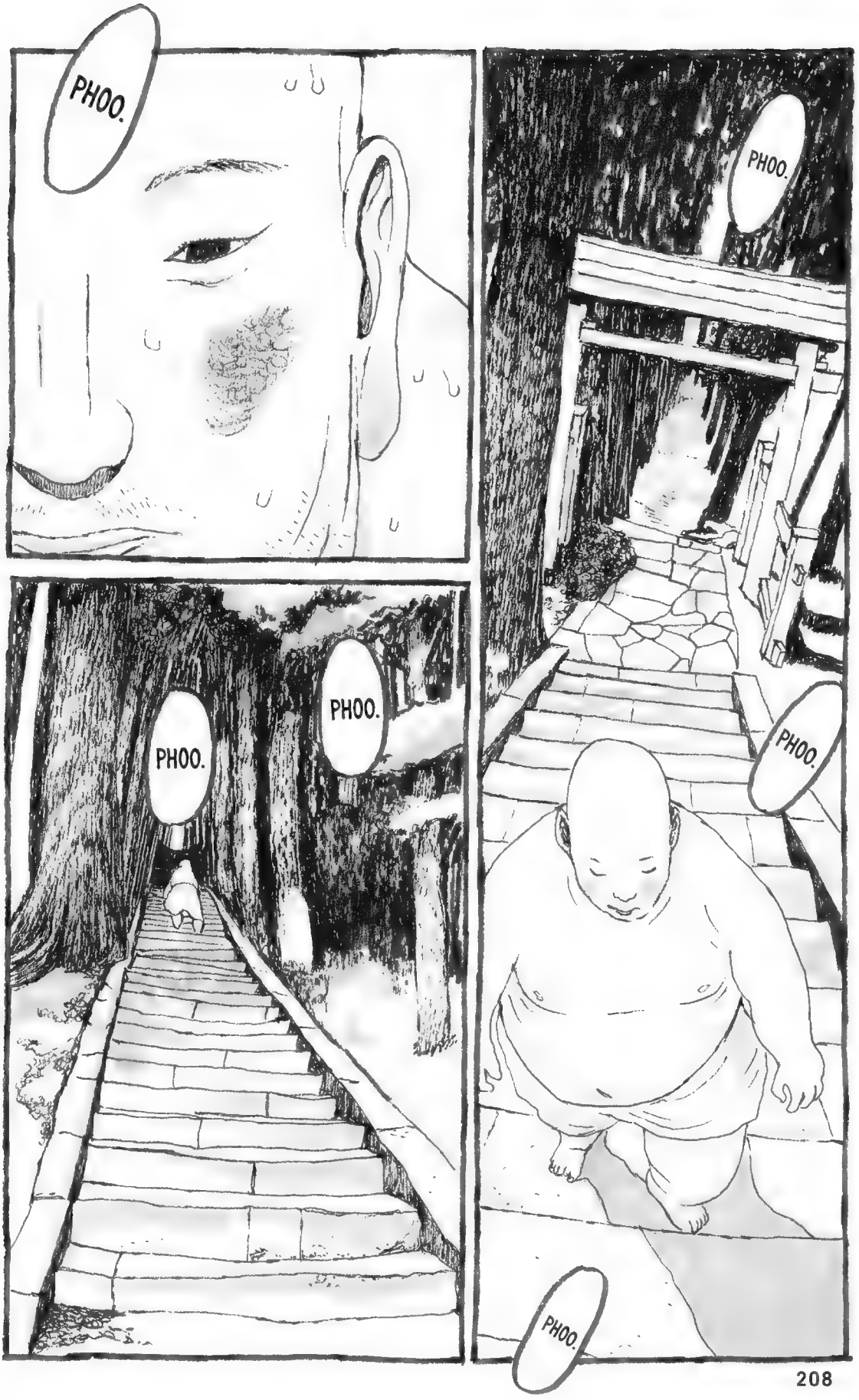
SUZUKI
ROOAAR
...

MY MOM ALSO SMELLED LIKE NIVEA.
MAKES ME RELAX WHEN I SMELL THIS.
!
ROOAR
MAYBE SHOSUKE WAS TRYING TO GET BACK TO HIS MOM...

HUH?
HARUO, DO YOU LIKE THE HOME?
W
H
...
I HATE THAT PLACE.
THAT'S NOT *MY* HOME.

ABSOLUTELY NOT.
Where are ya?!
Heyyy!
Shoooosuke!

Heyyy!

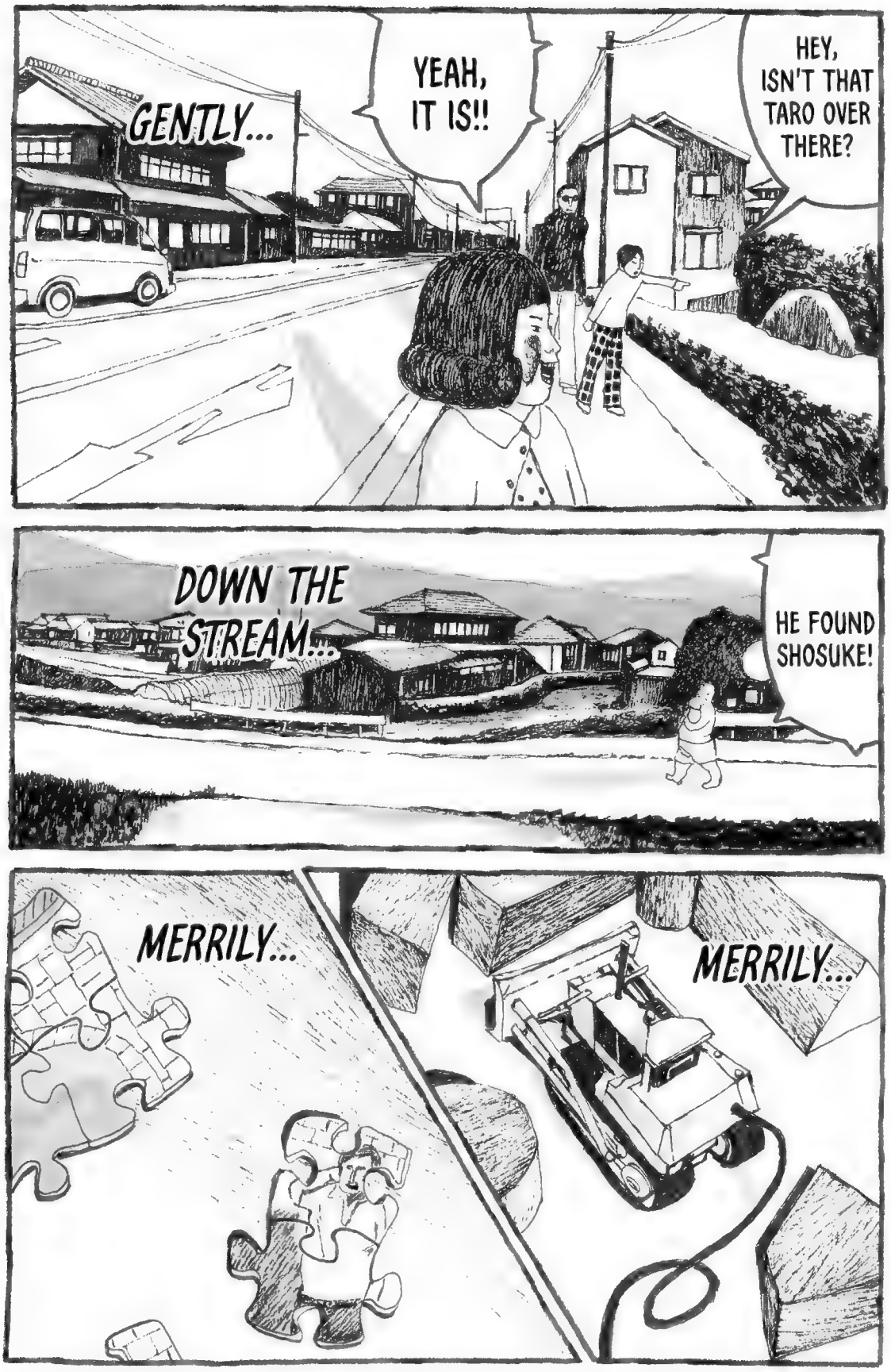

PHOO.
PHOO.
PHOO.
PHOO.
PHOO.
PHOO.

UNNH.
NO CLO-VER HERE.
FIND FWO-WEAF-CLO-VER?
FIND SOME?
UNNH.
TA-RO...
HEY...
Shosuke

ROW ROW
ROW YOUR
BOAT...

GENTLY DOWN THE STREAM...
LALA LALA LAAA
MERRILY MERRILY
MERRILY MERRILY

LIFE IS BUT A DREAM.
HUN-GRY...
P
SLEEP-YYYYY.
ROW ROW ROW YOUR BOAT...


GENTLY...
YEAH, IT IS!!
HEY, ISN'T THAT TARO OVER THERE?
DOWN THE STREAM...
HE FOUND SHOSUKE!
MERRILY...
MERRILY...

MERRILY...
MERRILY...
KAWAI
LIFE IS BUT A...
DREAM.

SHOSUKE
...
GOT CLO-VERS!
I FOUND 'EM.

Sunny
1
END

Sunny

First serialized in Japanese in ***IKKI***, February, March, April, May, June, and July **2011**.

SUNNY

Volume 1
VIZ Signature Edition

Story and art by **Taiyo MATSUMOTO**

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
SUNNY is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up.

TAIYO MATSUMOTO

is best known to English-reading audiences as the creator of ***Tekkonkinkreet***, which in 2006 was made into an animated feature film of the same name, directed by Michael Arias. In 2007 Matsumoto was awarded a **Japan Media Arts Festival Excellence Award**, and in 2008 he won an **Eisner Award** for the English publication of ***Tekkonkinkreet***.

Also available in **ENGLISH** by **TAIYO MATSUMOTO**

● *Blue Spring* ● *Tekkonkinkreet* ● *GoGo Monster*